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Issue 182

March 21st 2014

Students spell-bound for literary week

See page 4

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ALL FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE IN 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY FOR THE FRIDAY PUBLICATION

Weekender People

RETIRED teacher Polly English has always been involved in amateur dramatics.

Originally from Cumberland, when she moved to Crewkerne in 1983 she became involved in both Crewkerne Amateur Operatic Society and Crewkerne Players, which later amalgamated into Crewkerne United Operatic and Theatrical Society (CUDOS).

Polly has done every aspect of theatre and is currently directing the next CUDOS production "Oh, What a Lovely War", which was chosen to start off the local WWI commemorations in conjunction with the Royal British Legion. The musical play was written as a tribute to the fallen, organised by a theatre workshop group in the 1960s as a satire on those in power who encouraged people to go to war.

The players all dress as pierrots and change hats as they take on different characters, and there will be a lot of audience participation with the old time music hall songs being rolled out.

Polly said the show is something a bit different and amazing fun but with a serious side, as David Brolly has put together a slideshow of original WWI footage.

The biggest challenge was the set, which has to depict everything from the elegance of the Palm Court, where people danced before going to war, to the dust and filth of the trenches and the gruesome army hospitals.

'Oh, What a Lovely War' runs from May 7th to 10th at the Victoria Hall, Crewkerne. Tickets for £6 and £7 from the town hall or call 01460 74380.

60 seconds

● WHAT do you like most about being in CUDOS?
We talk about the CUDOS family and it really is. Everyone supports each other over everything, on stage or off. Whatever is going on in your life, you have a really solid group of friends who will never let you down.

● WHAT is you favourite part of am dram?
My favourite is performing. I love acting, particularly in plays but I have done every aspect from prompt to props and set building, I have even done the lights.

● WHAT would be your ultimate role?
That's hard because everything I see, I find a part I think would be great to do. Of the ones I have done, I really enjoyed Madame Arcati in "Blithe Spirit" and Bloody Mary in "South Pacific".

● WHAT are your most memorable moments in CUDOS?
I was one of the few lucky ones chosen to be in the Victoria Hall for the Queen's visit to Crewkerne. We were up on the stage so she couldn't get to us but she did smile and wave and said she liked the costumes we had on display, which were for the king and queen from "Sleeping Beauty".

● WHAT will you be doing next?
In September we are doing "High Society" which will give me a chance of being in the chorus. I love Cole Porter, one of my favourite shows we ever did was "Red Hot and Cole" in 2001. There was a power cut across the whole of South Somerset and we lit the candles, rolled out the old piano and carried on; the Octagon and the Brewhouse all had to close their shows that night but we didn't.

● IS there a show you are itching to put on?
"Dancing at Lughnasa" is a modern play set in Ireland in 1936 and is a good play for women as there are a lot of female roles. A few years ago, I got the license but then they took it away because a professional group were brining it to the Octagon.

● IS it harder to put on a show now than when you started?
Yes, I applied for the license of "Oh, What a Lovely War" two years ago. People think you just get a set of books from a library and get on with it, which is what you used to be able to do ,but it's big money now. "The Dining Room", which we won awards for, was very tough because it was very prescriptive and you had to pay percentages back. If a show is running in London, the cost for licenses goes up.

● HAVE you got any funny backstage stories?
Oh, there are loads but once, when I was working backstage in "Aladdin", I was supposed to be waving things around for the black light scene and I fell asleep and had to be woken up to get the Tardis out there. When I was teaching at Sherborne School for girls, I used to mark homework while I was being the prompt.

● WHAT did you enjoy most about teaching?
The kids, I loved my subject the classics which made it a joy but I loved working with teenagers. My favourite of the classics was Virgil's Aeneid in Latin. Latin was the basis of all European language.

● IF you had a massive Lottery win what would you do?
I'd give it away, who needs it? I don't think I could live with a lot of money, it's nice to be comfortable and I am comfortable. You hear about these people that win multi-millions and fritter it away. Having said that, we have a mission at CUDOS - whoever wins the Lottery has to build a theatre in Crewkerne!

● IF you could meet anyone, who would you choose?
It would be easy to say it would be wonderful to meet someone like Shakespeare but when you look at his lifestyle, maybe not. I'd like to meet Dame Judi Dench, of the actresses living she would be the one I would most like to talk to.

● WHAT three things would you like on your deserted island?
I love all books so I would like a Kindle with lots of books on; detective fiction is my favourite. Quite a lot of champagne and my big, warm, red dressing gown to wear reading my Kindle and sipping my champagne.

Contact us . . .

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More money for dementia support

By Marion Draper

COUNTY councillor John Dyke has presented the special dementia support group at the Henhayes Community Centre in Crewkerne with a donation of £750 from his health and wellbeing community budget.

Trustees have obtained initial funding for the support group for a year from Somerset Community Foundation and, together with the grant from Councillor Dyke's budget, they are about to appoint a project co-ordinator and activity worker to run the group in the future.

The centre hosts the Monday Memory group, designed for a maximum of 10 members so as not to be intimidating, where people with dementia can enjoy activities to stimulate them, such as reminiscent conversations, balloon football, boccia, painting and even using a computer.

Carers can have a break and get advice on benefits and other services available to them, while their loved one is also enjoying a change of scenery.

There is still room for six more members in the group and the trustees hope that carers who may be struggling on their own will come forward and take advantage of the service.

Although the county councillor's annual health and wellbeing budget was cut by half this year to £5,000, he considered the group was an extremely important project for the community.

Carer Roger Hall, from North Perrott, brings his wife Betty to the group and said of the service: "It's a very good thing, it gives me a break. We have lots of photo albums, we bring a different one each week and they go through them with her and she remembers things.

"Her memory of the past is probably better than mine."

The Alzheimer's Society has provided booklets which the relatives of dementia sufferers are encouraged to fill out with a photographs of them in their 40s or 50s, as that is the age most remembered. Inside, they fill out information on their past, such as where they grew up, worked, family members, etc. This gives the team triggers to use when talking to the person with memory loss.

Door-to-door transport for the Monday Memory group is available via the community voluntary transport bus and there is the option of staying for lunch.

On Wednesday, March 26th the Henhayes Centre will be hosting a session named "Answering Your Questions About Dementia" from 2.30 to 4.30pm, when a panel of experts will be on hand to answer questions. If you would like to attend or put forward a question, contact Barbara Hodges at Summervale Surgery, Ilminster, on 01460 52354 or alternatively email barbara.hodges@summervaleilm.nhs.uk

■ DEMENTIA SUPPORT: Henhayes Community Centre trustees Maureen Spinney, Irvin Johns, county councillor John Dyke, chairman of the trustees Rosemary Prince and trustee Tim Udall

South Somerset joins national Citizens Advice campaign

SOUTH Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau has joined forces with bureaux across the country as part of a national campaign to ensure sick and disabled people are not left stranded due to reforms to government support.

Recent changes to Employment Support Allowance will make it harder for sick and disabled people to get fair treatment, warns Alison Lennox, advice services manager at South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau.

Advisers and volunteers in South Somerset have dealt with 155 enquiries in the past six months regarding the widely-criticised Employment Support Allowance (ESA). In the past year alone, Citizens Advice nationally has helped with nearly half a million problems relating to ESA.

The Work Capability Assessment, which determines people's eligibility for ESA, has come under fire for failing to deliver accurate decisions, estimated to have cost taxpayers more than £60million. Since October, anyone who is at first refused support will have to wait an additional two weeks whilst their application is reassessed, during which time they will potentially be left without any income.

The new Citizens Advice "Fit for Work" campaign, launched in February, calls on ministers to ensure independent medical evidence is considered by officials before making an initial assessment about a person's fitness for work;

ensure any applicants for ESA are not left without financial support during the new, extra reassessment; and fine assessors where they are shown to have made an incorrect medical assessment.

Alison Lennox, advice services manager at South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau said: "Far too many of our clients are unable to cope with the stress of a benefit refusal. Recent changes have meant that during the period that they challenge an ESA refusal, claimants will not receive this benefit and are going without this income or have to rely on entitlement to other benefits.

"It has become a complicated system for already distressed clients to navigate their way through.

"I'm pleased to be a part of this new campaign to get the problems sorted out for our clients. This needs to be a joint effort between ministers, officials, charities and health professionals to make sure sick and disabled people get quick and fair treatment out of this system ,which right now is simply not working."

Gillian Guy, chief executive of Citizens Advice, added: "This system is failing far too many people. Anyone could suddenly become sick or disabled and it's vital that we have a strong system in place to help people cope with the unexpected.

"It can't be right that a decision about someone's health can be reached without even a basic consideration of medical evidence. Far too often, sick and disabled people are caught in a catch-22 where they are forced to pay for a doctor's help to appeal against a decision which was wrong in the first place.

"The extra red tape hurdle recently put in place by ministers before people can get much-needed support will mean thousands are wrongly forced to go it alone with no source of income. The best way to get the number and cost of appeals down is to make sure decisions are right first time rather than forcing people to jump through unnecessary and stressful extra hoops."

■ PICTURED are a very proud Hinton St George Church of England First School football team, wearing their new kit sponsored by Crewkerne firm Allglass and Glazing Ltd. The kit was presented by Hayley Pattemore (pictured with players).

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Literary fest success at Wadham School

By Marion Draper

■ CONGRATULATIONS: Headteacher David Derbyshire presents Tasmin Jefferies with the Wise Owl trophy for the Scrabble tournament

■ CONGRATULATIONS: Headteacher David Derbyshire presents Tasmin Jefferies with the wise owl trophy and, right, teacher Angelos Markoutsas tutor group member Keiran Hill and other Wadham students

STUDENTS at Wadham School in Crewkerne were "spell" bound for a whole week as they immersed themselves in all things literary to mark World Book Day.

The week's activities culminated in the final of the speed Scrabble tournament in the school library during the lunchtime breal. The competitors had five minutes to score as high as possible, using only the face value of the tiles but being allowed to use proper nouns.

Student champion Tasmin Jeffries triumphed over teacher Tim Yeates in the head-to-head to take the Wise Owl Literary Fest trophy, presented by headteacher David Derbyshire.

The Monday quiz was won by the staff team who were given the prize of character pens and the runners-up were the sixth form team who received a large box of chocolates.

The Year 10 spelling bee was won by Mr Murkoutsas' tutor group, which was awarded a trophy and a hamper of goodies.

Head of English, Richard D'Rozario, said: "This has been huge, huge fun and education done in the right way; literacy pervades everything we do."

He thanked Julie Kneafsey and Michele Weston from the school library who he described as the "architects of this week".

Headteacher David Derbyshire added: "It's a bit like a dog is not just for Christmas, literacy is not just for literacy week."

Mrs Kneafsey commented that one of the most popular challenges of the week had been the "Stop and Spell", in which students were approached at any point throughout the school day and asked to choose an easy, intermediate or hard word to spell and were awarded house points for correct answers.

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ADVERTISERS ANNOUNCEMENT

7 year end tax planning tips for small businesses in Somerset from tax expert Robert Stone

THE last quarter of the current financial tax year is a good time to reflect on your business or personal income and to look at your likely earnings for the tax year 2013-2014. Chartered accountant and tax expert Robert Stone says that it's all about finding the most efficient ways of reducing a tax bill without resorting to complicated tax schemes or running the risk of incurring HM Customs and Revenue's wrath.

"Why pay more tax than you need to when there are plenty of legitimate ways to make the most of your finances," said Robert Stone. "It's just a matter of careful planning and knowing what allowances or tax reliefs you can claim. However, it is important to get proper advice, because everyone's circumstances are different."

For example, if a business is making a loss from trading, it may be better to carry the loss forwards to the new tax year. Alternatively, it can make financial sense to bring forward expenditure before the end of a tax year, so that you receive the tax benefits one year earlier.

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This is particularly relevant currently as corporation tax is due to fall from 23 per cent to 21 per cent in April this year.

Seven tax saving tips for small businesses in Somerset

1. If you take a loan out for your business, make sure you claim the tax relief on it by paying the money immediately into your business bank account. Don't forget to inform your accountant when you have done this.

2. Any business which is VAT registered can reclaim VAT on up to 25p out of the fixed mileage rate of 45p per mile for business motoring. For example, if you pay £4,500 fixed mileage rate to an employee driving a car with a 1600cc petrol engine, then you could reclaim £283 of VAT. Make sure you keep the correct records and get VAT receipts, and if you have never put in a claim before, you could claim for the past three years.

3. Did you know that if you are a basic rate taxpayer you receive 20 per cent pension tax relief. So if you make a payment of £8,000, the government makes a tax contribution of £2,000, which makes the total contribution £10,000. Non taxpayers get basic rate tax relief, so if you make the maximum payment of £2,880, then HMRC adds a contribution of £720, making the gross contribution £3,600. Better still, if you are aged between 55-75, you can take a tax free lump sum of 25% (£900) of the £3,600 pension fund. So for the cost of £2,880 you now have £3,600 in your pension fund, plus a cash lump sum of £900.

4. At present, small businesses can claim 100 per cent capital allowances when buying plant, machinery and equipment in any year, up to a maximum of £250,000. Even if you buy equipment on the last day of your accounting period and start to use it, you still receive relief for the accounting year in which you bought the item. So make sure you do make the purchase before your year end and not one day after, otherwise you will have to wait another year before you get the tax relief.

5. You can reduce the tax and National Insurance charge on your profits by paying your spouse/civil partner or your children a wage - if they have no income and are working for you in your business.

6. This is the ideal moment to review your business structure and to decide whether it is right for you. Before the start of the next tax year consider whether you should remain a sole trader (which was ideal for when you were starting out), or whether you should incorporate your business into a limited company. There are costs involved, but the potential tax and National Insurance savings for a sole trader, with profits of £35,000, is £2,343.

7. If you are paying tax on investment income, you can use your ISA allowance of up to £11,520 in the current tax year of which up to £5,760 can be in cash and the remainder as stocks and shares. The income from an ISA is tax free as is the capital growth.

Robert Stone is delighted to give advice on tax matters and business issues. Telephone Robert on: 01460 55661 or email him: robert@robert-stone.co.uk. Alternatively visit www.robert-stone.co.uk

■ CONCERT SUCCESS: Sarah Holley, Bob Spiller, Sandra Shore (organiser) and president Jerry Webb of the Rotary Club of Crewkerne District

Charity concert a huge success

A CONCERT held at Victoria Hall in Crewkerne to raise funds for Parkinson's UK was hailed as a brilliant success by organisers, the Rotary Club of Crewkerne District.

Berties Big Band, led by Bob Spiller, entertained the audience with a full programme featuring "American Patrol", "My Funny Valentine", "The Pink Panther", "Copacabana" and many more.

Two soloists gave stunning performances of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and "Too Close for Comfort" (Lucy Cozens), "Mr Bojangles", "Moondance" and "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" (Simon Newton).

The sell out evening raised in excess of £2,000 which will go to the continued research into Parkinson's disease. The club would like thank everyone who supported the event.

GOT A STORY FOR THE WEEKENDER? Call reporter Marion Draper on 07771 641 506 or email marionsview@aol.com

Young scientists go to Big Bang

By Marion Draper

THREE pupils from Maiden Beech Academy in Crewkerne recently represented the South West of England in the National Young Scientist of the Year competition.

The national finals were held at The Big Bang, a young scientist and engineers fair, which was held at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham.

The Big Bang is the largest celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths for young people in the UK. Everything is aimed at showing young people, primarily aged seven to 19, just how many exciting and rewarding opportunities there are for them with the right experience and qualifications.

The boys who went from Maiden Beech were Ryan Forsey, Harry Moon and Andrew Obern, all aged 13. They reached the national finals after winning the regional event held at Exeter University last July.

Their project was all about baby nappies amd their investigation included trying to find out which was the most absorbent, which was the strongest, which one leaked the most and how long they took to decompose. Their favourite investigation was the splatter test where they filled nappies with porridge and dropped them from a set height, weighed down by a bag of sand. This was to simulate a baby falling on its bottom from a standing position to see how a filled nappy would hold up.

The boys did not win in their age category but said they had a great time, having to demonstrate their project to some of the 70,000 visitors that attended the Big Bang this year. They also got to meet the celebrity judges, including Jason Bradbury from Channel 5's "The Gadget Show", Britain's first astronaut Dr Helen Sharman, Nobel Prize winning biochemist Sir Tim Hunt, BBC One's "Bang Goes the Theory" presenter Dallas Cambell and Kate Bellingham, former "Tomorrow's World" presenter.

Teachers Louisa Ridgley and Carl Street who took the boys to the competition were very proud of their pupils. They said they spoke well to the judges and were a credit to the school.

■ NAPPY PROJECT: Below, Maiden Beech Academy pupils Harry Moon, Ryan Forsey Andrew Obern at the Big Bang and, above, Ryan with Britain's first astronaut Dr Helen Sharman

Credit union branch opens in Chard

OLD FASHIONED BANKING: Camelot Credit Union launches in Chard

THERE were balloons and celebrations outside Chard Guildhall recently as the mayor and her consort, Councillors Jenny and Andy Kenton, joined members of the Church of the Good Shepherd in launching the new service point for Camelot Credit Union.

Board secretary Margaret Davis-Brown had visited the church by their invitation and spoken to the congregation about how the credit union worked. Their committee agreed to be involved, recognising a need in the town.

A credit union is a savings and loan co-operative owned entirely by its members. If someone joins and saves from as little as £1 a week regularly, after 13 weeks they are eligible for a loan at very low interest rates.

Money saved stays in the community and the credit union is run by volunteers, keeping costs down.

Councillor Jenny Kenton commented: "It's a great initiative and being able to go to talk to father Geoff in his office, it's a bit more private and it's all about local people helping other local people."

Father Geoff Williams added: "We've got together as a church to do this because we know there is such a need for people to have responsible saving in the old fashioned way without a great big credit bill and not being able to pay."

Camelot Credit Union operates for the benefit of all those living or working in the South Somerset district, providing safe and secure savings and low-cost loans to members and has service points in other towns and villages, including Crewkerne, Yeovil and Langport. For more information visit their website at www.camelot-creditunion.co.uk

The Chard service point will be available on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 2pm to 4pm at Church Vicarage, Furnham Road, Chard (winter months) and at the church itself during the summer.

Girls versus boys in ploughing

LADIES will take on the men at the Cotley Hedgelaying and Vintage Ploughing competition at Cotley Farm on Saturday, March 29th.

Ladies will compete once again in this year's competition and they will also be on show in the vintage ploughing match.

Emma Stapleforth, on the organising team for the event and competitor, said: "This will show that women can not only hedgelay as well as men but know how to use a tractor and plough just as well. This has always been the case on farms throughout the ages and we wanted to showcase the talent of local ladies and I am delighted that the ploughing girls are taking part"

Alongside the vintage tractors match and the hedgelaying competition there will be a heavy horse demonstration, a modern five furrow plough demonstration and a static display of vintage tractors and machinery through the ages.

Organiser Sam Grabham said: "We have lined up experts from the hedging and ploughing fields to come and explain the skills in both and we hope that visitors will find it exciting to watch and very informative.

"There will be tractor and trailer rides so that the visitors will be able to see everything up close and personal without having to move very far."

Chardstock Vintage Tractor and Machinery Club are running the ploughing event, which centres on three classes. Chairman of the club, Bob Waldron, said: "This will be a great event for all our members and a chance for folks to take a closer look at ploughing and how good these old tractors really are."

All proceeds from the day will go the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance, which provides a valuable service for everyone living in the two counties counties.

The helicopter, based at Henstridge Airfield, can be at any point in the two counties within 19 minutes of receiving the emergency call. More importantly the helicopter can take a patient to any one of the major trauma centres in the South West within a further 20 minutes. This service is totally reliant on fundraising each year.

The hedge laying kicks off at 9.30am and all visitors are welcome to watch the contestants in action. There are four classes this year - an open class for expert hedgelayers who have already won several competitions (sponsored by Pearce Seeds Ltd.), an intermediate class for experienced hedgelayers, a novice pairs class and a ladies class (sponsored by Roger Parris, one of the leading lights of the National Hedgelaying Society).

At 11am, there will be a break of about half an hour for the start of the ploughing match, which will see over 25 tractors and ploughs set off for their first furrow.

The Heavy Horses, sponsored by River Cottage, Simon Burrough Engineering and Alastair Townshend will be giving demonstrations throughout the day. Prizegiving for both competitions will take place at about 4pm followed by a tea with homemade cakes and biscuits.

A bar and barbecue will be available throughout the day.

The address for the competition is Cotley Farm, Cotley, Chard TA20 3EP with free entrance but donations welcome. The event will be signposted from Chard.

Camera club members compete for prize

THE president's portfolio competition saw members of the Chard Camera Club fight for the title at the recent club night.

The criteria for the competition was that the entrant should submit three prints to be marked left, centre and right and to be displayed separately alongside each other on a theme of their choice that was reflected through the three images.

Two judges for the competition were from within the club, chairman James Brown and Trevor Mace, who deliberated away from the club and gave their verdict on the night.

Overall winner was Malcolm Brocklehurst with images entitled "Wagons and Wheels", taken at the local Perry Cider Mills. Dick Moon came in second with "Images of Marine Musicians", taken at the Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton. Third place was shared between Dick again with "Images of the Red Arrows" taken at the Royal Naval Air Station, Yeovilton, and Peter O'Shea with his work entitled "Fishing Boat", taken at Beer.

Anyone interested in joining the club can contact membership secretary Peter Partridge on 01460 66885 or vist the club's website chardcameraclub.org.uk

Winsham pupils in pancake races

ON SHROVE Tuesday earlier this month, Winsham Primary School pupils made pancakes and brought in their frying pans to take part in a traditional pancake race.

At the end of the school day, parents and community members were invited to come and watch the children as they took part in the races.

The overall winner for Key Stage 1 was Loui and at Key Stage 2 was Vikki.

The school would like to say a big "well done" to all who took part and thank you to parents and friends for their support.

Meet reporter Marion with your stories every Friday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm at Chard Guildhall

On yer bike!

STAFF at Sainsbury's in Chard took part in a sponsored static bike ride recently in aid of the Flying Colours Appeal for Yeovil Hospital's Special Care Baby Unit.

In total, 35 miles were cycled and £127.57 raised for the cause. Pictured left are Helen Standerwick and Pauline Lear with Martin Ward at the pedals.

Forest school

PICTURED right are Chard School early years children feeding chickens at their Forest School session, held at the Magdalen Project, Winsham.

The children enjoyed the session, which included hunting for bugs and feeding the animals. They also recently took part in a "Gruffalo" themed Forest School session.

SPECIALIST VALUATION DAYS

FREE EXPERT VALUATIONS

Friday 28th March, 10am-2pm: The George Inn, Market Square, Crewkerne, Somerset, TA18 7LP

Thursday 27th March, 10am-3pm: Bridgwater Arts Centre, 11-13 Castle Street, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 3DD

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Learning where food comes from

GREENFYLDE Church of England First School were invited to Tesco in Ilminster for a guided tour.

They tried out different fruits, explored the check outs and went behind the scenes in the storerooms and bakery.

The tour was set up as part of the Farm to Fork Trail initiative Tesco has set up to teach primary school children more about where their food comes from. They are encouraging trips out to explore farms, dig up spuds and perhaps even milk some cows, as well as bringing them into the stores to bake bread, fillet a fish and learn about the variety of fruit and vegetables.

Trained colleagues and partners are also going into the schools and Tesco donated fruit to Greenfylde Year 1 pupils to try out smoothie making in school with the help of Rachel Stoodly, their new community champion, who has taken over from Nicky De'Ath after five years.

Success for Ilminster's Save Shudrick Valley campaigns

By Marion Draper

THE Save Shudrick Valley Group in Ilminster is claiming a minor victory after South Somerset District Council looked favourably on modifications to the Local Plan proposal for extended growth at the Canal Way end of the town.

However, group members feel they have won a battle but not yet the war.

A spokeseperon for the group said: "This could not be better news for our campaign. We have fought for two and a half years to get this changed around and don't forget that Canal Way was the district council's original preferred option for direction of growth, so we are now back where we started in October 2010.

"With its new team looking at the sustainability appraisal for the two main options, which was then checked by external consultants and minor changes made, the council has still come out in favour of Canal Way.

"The district council has looked at the proposal for Ilminster thoroughly, as can be seen from all the evidence, and has come to the decision which is not only the best solution for sustainability but also the best way forward for the town.

"The decision has found that the beautiful and sensitive landscape at Shudrick Valley is worth preserving and that the suggestion for an eastern relief road was poorly conceived, has little support and should now be dead in the water. Once this valley was ever built on it could never be reinstated.

"The decision will now go to the Inspector in June; until then we will not be celebrating this victory, he still has to adopt the modifications but this decision shows that Ilminster Town Council's stance to back Shudrick Valley as its preferred option – which don't forget was only supported by six out of 15 councillors – was ill considered, had no backing from the townspeople and was not in the best interests of the town. "It's as yet un-adopted vision for the town is now completely in tatters and out of date after the decisions made today and the council will need to do much work to get it back on track for it to be included as a neighbourhood plan. Then it must get proper public consultation on it from within the town before adopting it."

Tesco hosts Mother's Day drawing competition

TESCO in Ilminster is holding a children's Mother's Day drawing competition.

It will run until Friday, March 28th and all participants have to do to enter is draw a picture of their mum and hand it into the customer service desk, with contact details on the back.

There will be three categories; up to five years, 6-10 years and 11-18 years. One winner from each category will be picked at random on March 28th and each winner will win a bouquet of flowers for their mum.

■ LAST year Tesco collected Easter eggs for children in hospital over Easter at Musgrove. It will be doing the same again this year.

There will be a collection box in store for people to leave their donations. The patients really appreciated the gifts last year and the staff were very happy that they were though of.

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The WEEKENDER in South Somerset

New scheme for creative professionals

CREATIVE Somerset is co-ordinating the development of a new range of Creatives Clubs across Somerset.

The Creatives Clubs provide a place where the local but dispersed community of professional, creative people can come together to share knowledge, skills, interests, and ideas, explore collaborations and widen their creative networks.

Funded by Somerset County Council as part of the Creative Industries Development Fund, it is hoped the scheme will promote enterprising ideas and encourage creative industries to strengthen their contribution to the county's economy.

Professionals report that 80 per cent of their business comes from people they know and that networking will instantly increase contacts, build awareness, motivate those valuable referrals and identify enhancing opportunities to build new ventures.

Somerset is largely a small business economy, particularly in more rural areas. Creative Somerset, together with Somerset County Council's Industries Development Fund, believes that sharing information about new developments within the industry - including new tools, processes, leaders, training programmes, products and services - will help strengthen the creative economy and growth.

The Creatives Club started in 2011 with a successful project in Watchet, West Somerset. Since then, other like-minded groups have been set up to meet and network in a similar environment across the county. As a result, Creative Somerset is working in partnership with freelance facilitators and local venues to co-ordinate five Creative Clubs providing for each district in Somerset; West Somerset, Taunton Deane, South Somerset, Sedgemoor and Mendip.

Zoe Truong, general manager of Creative Somerset, said: "The aim of the networks is to help people discover the solution to a problem and in turn give the satisfaction of potentially providing the key piece of information that makes a real difference to one another within the network.

"As part of the Creative Industries Development scheme Creative Somerset believes that providing such networking opportunities across county will develop the infrastructure on a wider regional scale and enable further exciting developments to emerge as a result. It will also support the work of Creative Somerset, enabling the organisation to better achieve their aims of advocacy and partnerships for the creative and cultural sector."

Creative Somerset is grateful to the facilitators, together with Creative Innovation Centre CIC and Shakspeare Glass and Arts for providing the venues.

If you are living within the Mendip area of Somerset and would like the freelance opportunity to be a facilitator for this area or can provide a venue, get in touch by emailing info@creativesomerset.com

Alternatively, to find a Creatives Club near you please contact Creative Somerset who will be able to provide details of your local facilitator.

Market offering best of the Levels returns

THE Levels' Best Farmers' and Craft Market returns to Montacute House for another season from Saturday, March 29th.

Now in its 13th year, the award-winning market showcases the best from across the Somerset Levels. There will be between 30 to 40 stall holders every month in the beautiful setting of Montacute House, a National Trust property just 2.5 miles from Yeovil.

Beverley Milner Simonds, marketing officer for Levels' Best, said: "Entry to the market and grounds of the house is free and there is ample free car parking. The market has some outstanding producers, all from the Somerset Levels'.

The market is also dog friendly and the grounds a great place to picnic after the event and also to exercise your dog. This year, the market will also have regular spots from chefs and cooks - demonstrating how to get the best out of this seasons produce.

"If you have been wondering how best to helps and support the farmers affected by the recent flooding - this is a great opportunity to back them with trade."

The market trades from 10am to 2pm on the last Saturday of the month.

Standards Committee seeks new members

SOMERSET County Council is giving members of the public the opportunity to get involved in the way public services are run.

Two new members are required to work alongside councillor representatives on the Standards Committee and help make a real difference at the council.

There are currently vacancies for two co-opted members to help with issues such as setting standards of conduct for councillors, promoting them to the council and public, and compliance.

Julian Gale, the council's monitoring officer said: "We welcome applications from people from different kinds of backgrounds. Previous experience is not necessary, applicants need to live in Somerset and have had no recent direct involvement in the running of the council.

"We are also looking for people who can bring their experiences of life into the committee, who have the time to commit to this interesting role and above all be totally independent."

The role is non-voting and expenses will be paid for attending meetings, together with a small annual allowance.

Closing date for applications is 5pm on Monday, April 7th and the interview date is Wednesday, April 16th.

If you are interested in this post, contact Andrea Hussey on 01823 359041, email ahussey@somerset.gov.uk or write to Community Governance, County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY for further details.

Careline Service reaches out to 2,000 residents

SOUTH Somerset District Council's Careline Service has reached a new landmark by having a total of 2,000 customers currently registered and receiving the service.

The Careline service provides an emergency alarm button and pendant that can be worn at all times, which links to a control centre where emergency staff are on hand to answer calls 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The district has been running the service for 32 years and it continues to prove invaluable to residents, particularly those people living alone. The growth in the service reflects the great reputation built up by a team of dedicated and experienced staff and the quality of the service.

Pressing the alarm button puts the customer straight into contact with staff who can call a family member, neighbour or doctor if the resident is feeling unwell, or an ambulance if needed. They will also call the police if the person feels intimidated or in danger.

The service offers a range of other "telecare" devices which can help people live independently, such as smoke detectors, fall detectors and key safes.

Service manager Alice Knight said: "More and more people in South Somerset are taking advantage of our service, from those who are elderly to people with disabilities and those who are considered as at risk by their loved ones. We find that friends and family feel reassured with the knowledge that we are here to help their loved ones if they ever need it".

The installation of the alarm system costs £32.05 but is free to those who are on certain benefits. There is a weekly charge of £3.74 for hire and monitoring of the equipment.

Leader of the council, Councillor Ric Pallister, commented: "I am incredibly proud of our Careline service which provides people with reassurance and enables many elderly or vulnerable residents to live as safely and as independently as they possibly can.

"I congratulate the team on this great achievement of reaching 2,000 customers, a true reflection of the commitment of staff and also the excellent reputation of the service".

To find out more about how Careline can help, contact 01935 479815 or visit the website www.southsomerset.gov.uk/careline

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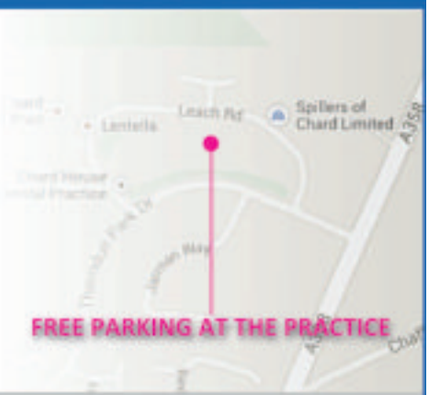
Welcome to our new Dentist Peter Gyoker...

We are proud to announce that Peter Gyoker has joined the Chard House Dental Team.

Peter moved to the UK and has worked in Chard since 2009 and lived locally ever since. Peter loves dentistry and has special interest in restorative dentistry and implantology, which he is further developing on his post graduate course in Implant Dentistry at the University of Warwick.

Outside of the dentistry world, Peter relishes the opportunities in travelling adventures and experiencing new places.



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COTLEY POINT

SUNDAY, MARCH

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It's camel racing at the in aid of Dorset &

RACING enthusiasts attending the annual Cotley Point-to-Point on Sunday 30 March at Cotley, near Chard in Somerset will be in for a surprise when they see the runners entered in the first race of the day at 11.30am. Four shaggy ships of the desert, otherwise known as camels, are due to come thundering down the finishing straight, ridden by jockeys wearing flowing Lawrence of Arabia style regalia, all in aid of the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance charity.

"Camel racing is an exciting addition to this year's race meeting," said Tom Eames, the new Chairman of the Cotley Point to Point. "We've got four camel races, each with four camels competing and we've been inundated with riders willing to raise sponsorship in order to be jockeys and from businesses wanting to sponsor the camels. In fact we received so many applications that we increased the number of races from three to four. We are hoping to raise over £4,000 for Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance from both the camel racing and the Cotley Hedge Laying Competition, which is taking place the day before the point-to-point."

Tom is an old hand at camel racing, having tried it a few years ago. It was an experience, which he describes as: "Thrilling, even if I wasn't sure who was in control, me or the camel!" and it inspired him to consider adding camel racing to the Cotley Point-to-Point programme. "Several other point-to-point organisers have held camel racing at their point-to-points with enormous success," said Tom. "We want to encourage as many people as possible to come point-to-point racing, as it's a great sport, which people of all ages can enjoy."

Camel racing is an immensely popular pastime in the Middle East and it is fast catching on in the UK with races being held all over the country from Cheltenham Racecourse to the Royal Cornwall Show. The camels who will be taking part in the Cotley Point to Point are Dromedaries (one hump) and Bactrian (two humps) types, who are owned and specially trained by Rebecca and Joseph Fossett of Joseph's Amazing Camels (JAC) from Warwickshire.

Wearing colourful Arabian style trappings, JAC's camels will be competing in four races, taking place at 11.30am, 12noon, 12.30pm and 1pm, with prize givings for jockeys and sponsors of winning camels at the end of each race.

"I cannot thank our camel jockeys, camel sponsors and race sponsors enough for their support in helping raise money for this excellent charity. It's wonderful that all these local people and Somerset businesses have rallied to our cause with such enthusiasm. If we can make this year's camel racing event a success then we will certainly consider adding it to the point-to-point programme again next year," said Tom Eames, who will be presenting a cheque for the money raised to Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance immediately after the last camel race.

When the camels have finished racing they will be on public display and it is well worth taking the opportunity to visit these splendid creatures while they are at the point-to-point.

Cotley Camel Races Preview

THE camels will be racing on the flat over a shorter distance (approximately one furlong - 1/8th mile/220 yards) than their equine counterparts who must race between 2 1/2 to 3 miles.

All camels will carry a maximum weight of 14 stone and riders must be aged 18 years or over. Crash hats and back protectors are compulsory. Each rider must have raised a minimum of £150 in sponsorship. The dress code for jockeys is Arabian style costume.

The winning jockey in each race will receive a bottle of champagne and all camel jockeys will receive a Cotley Camel Racing commemorative plaque. There will be a special prize awarded to the best dressed jockey in each race. The sponsor of the winning camel in each race will receive a commemorative photograph frame.

11.30 am. Ladies Race sponsored by Cotley Inn

Camels kindly sponsored by: Elder and Froy Estate Agents, Smiths Gore Rural Chartered Surveyors, Humphries Kirk Solicitors and Porter Dodson Solicitors
Jockeys: Laura Cozens, Becky Harvey, Stephanie Lloyd Foxe, Emma Knight
Form: Don't be fooled by these lovely ladies, they are all experienced and highly competitive horsewomen who won't be taking any prisoners in their bid to win.

12 noon. Point to Point Members Race sponsored by Albert Goodman

Camels kindly sponsored by: Gibbs Funeral Services, NFU Mutual, Bredy Agri Centre, tree surgeon Oliver Bailhache
Jockeys: Ben Lund, Raymond Pipe, Nickie Ayers, Kathryn Reed
Form: These jockeys are the business - all have serious point-to-point racing experience. But will it be enough when it comes to telling a camel where to go?

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-TO-POINT

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Cotley Point to Point Somerset Air Ambulance

12.30pm. Veterinary Race sponsored by Courtash Property Developers

Camels kindly sponsored by: Synergy Farm Health, Isle Valley Veterinary Group, Coombefield Veterinary Hospital, Kingfisher Veterinary Practice.
Jockeys: Dominic Schneider (riding for Isle Valley Veterinary Group), Tessa Porter (riding for Coombefield Veterinary Hospital), Nicola Eisenhauer (riding for Kingfisher Veterinary Practice), Matthew Board (riding for Synergy Farm Health).
Form: With local vets racing each other, this is going to be a race worth watching. Look out for Dominic Schneider, an experienced team chaser who will undoubtedly be showing his camel who's boss.

1pm. Cotley Hunt Supporters Race sponsored by Seabrook Clark Investment Management

Camels kindly sponsored by: Mole Avon, WE Phillips & Sons Ltd, Riverside Feeds Ltd, C Snell Wholesale
Jockeys: Kris Parsons, Ryan Kuszek, Joanne Anning, Kate Sopwith.
Form: There will be lots of cheering for the local Cotley riders in this race. The pressure will be on for Joanne Anning, who will be riding for her employers Mole Avon.

Cotley Point-to-Point Horse Races - 1st race 1.30pm

IN ADDITION to the four Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance charity camel races, there will be six horse races on the 2014 Cotley Point-to-Point race card:

1.30pm The Beviss & Beckingsale Cotley Hunt Members, Subscribers and Farmers Race
2.05pm The Henry Bowers Ltd Countryside Alliance Club Members Conditions Race
2.40pm The Dairy Farm Services South West Ltd Open Maiden Race for 4, 5, 6 and 7 year olds (2 1/2 miles)
3.20pm The Brewin Dolphin Mixed Open Race
3.55pm The Bearnes Hampton & Littlewood Restricted Race
4.30pm The Greenslade Taylor Hunt Open Maiden Race

Top Wessex trainers who support the Cotley Point-to-Point

NIGEL Legg, Gordon Herrod, Colin Bright, Jane Weston, Richard Barber, Jack Barber, Kaylie Woollacott, Sue Popham, Ed Walker, Marie McGuinness, Chloe Roddick, Ryan Bliss, Mary Tory and Ben Lund.

An excellent viewing course in an idyllic setting

THE Cotley Point-to-Point course is located in the most wonderful countryside and provides an idyllic setting in which to watch racing. The cost of entry, payable on the gate, is just £20 per car (£10 for cars with a single occupant). An official race card and form guide, packed with indispensable information on likely winners and rank outsiders, will be available for purchase on the day. Well behaved dogs are also welcome on leads.

Refreshments are available on the day, together with a bar, barbecue, a variety of trade stands, a bouncy castle, a Tote and assorted bookmakers. You are welcome to bring a picnic to enjoy while watching the racing. Between 2.40 and 3.20pm the famous lemon and white Cotley hounds will parade and members of the public (especially children) will be invited to meet them.

Key facts about the Cotley Point-to-Point

Over 60 years of superb racing on one of the West Country's most popular point-to-point courses

- The Cotley Point-to-Point has provided an excellent training ground for some of the UK's top National Hunt trainers, including Robert Alner, Robert Buckler, Simon Burrough, Chris Popham, Colin Tizzard and Venetia Williams.
- The most popular racing celebrity to have visited the Cotley Point-to-Point was Red Rum on May Day in 1979.
- Some of the best amateur jockeys have cut their teeth riding at the Cotley Point-to-Point, including Jim Culloty, Bob Butler, Venetia Williams, Polly Gundry and Ryan Mahon who in 2011 rode at the Cotley Point-to-Point AND in the Grand National
- The undulating course is approximately three miles and 120 yards long, and is one of the few remaining genuine point-to-point courses left in the South West
- There are nine fences, measuring 4ft 3in, including an open ditch - they are all jumped twice.
- The fences are hand-made by Cotley volunteers from sustainable, locally grown birch.
- Camel racing starts at 11.30am.
- Horse racing starts at 1.30pm.
- Get to the Point-to-Point early for a good parking spot overlooking the racecourse.
- Refreshments, bar, barbecue, trade stands.
- Entry fee: £20 per car, £10 for a car with a single occupant.
- The course can be found two miles SW of Chard, off the A30 - post

For further details about the Cotley Point-to-Point, contact the Chairman, Tom Eames on 01460 239390 / 07710 379564.

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RODFORDS the Florist have been providing high quality, fresh flowers to Crewkerne and surrounding areas for over 30 years.

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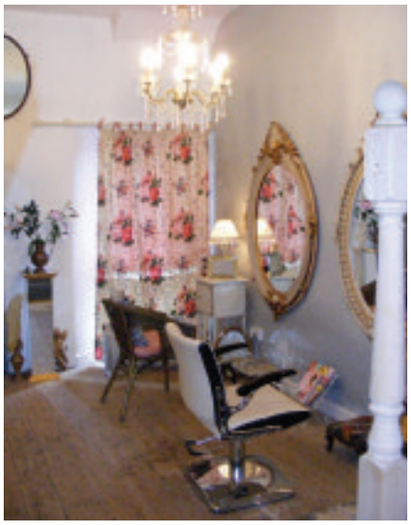
Penhalagans

PENHALAGANS has an informal and relaxed hair salon offering expert styling, colouring and perming services. The stunning and modern salon is furnished with the latest in hair styling and beauty products. This means they are proud to offer their clients the best possible facilities.

For a limited time only, Penhalagans are offering £100 off semi-permanent make-up, so pay us a visit and see our wide range available.



Shear Magic

SHEAR Magic has been in business since July 2006 and has gone from strength to strength ever since. Proprietor Louise, has well over ten years experience in hair cutting and styling, and the salon boasts five stylists.

Catering for all tastes, Shear Magic benefits from a loyal clientele who return time after time for the fantastic results Louise and her team produce.

Shear Magic caters for both men and women. Pensioner's discounts are also available on request with Jo or Stacey.

Shear Magic also sell GHD products, and Morrocan Hair Oils, which are great for keeping your hair in fabulous condition. Shear Magic gift vouchers also make the perfect gift.

Visit this modern and stylish salon today for all your special occasions, a new you or your regular hair cut.

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Why not take a break from the generic sales and see what One World has to offer you. Whatever your requirements or if you are looking for something in particular, Nancy and her team are there to offer support and provide a personal service that is second to none. No request is too big or small, and we can help you find that unique gift that stands out from the crowd!

West of England Laser Centre

Frown lines and worry lines?

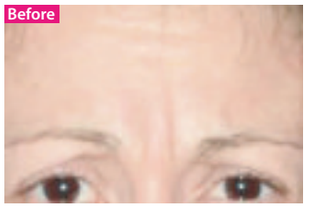
INJECTION treatment is now available for upper facial frown lines and wrinkles - in particular, the deep furrows between the eyebrows, forehead lines and "crows feet" around the eyes.

These injections work by producing muscle relaxation and were first used 25 years ago in the treatment of squints. For the past 10 years they have been widely used for cosmetic purposes in the treatment of upper facial lines, their efficacy and safety confirmed by numerous large studies. Injection treatment is widely reported to be extremely popular with celebrities and those in the public eye, whose appearance is paramount.

Treatment is administered by a number of virtually painless, small, fine-needle injections that take only a few minutes to perform, have virtually no side effects and following which you can resume normal activities straight away. Injections usually take 3-7 days to take effect and last from 3-6 months. Injections can then be repeated. – studies have shown that following a series of injections, the facial muscles may further relax and as a result, intervals between injections may be prolonged.

Skin conditions such as these can be treated at The West of England Laser Centre, based at the Nuffield Health Taunton Hospital. Treatment is undertaken by a Consultant Surgeon who has an in depth understanding of the facial anatomy. You can therefore rest assured that you would be in the right hands and in the right place for the treatment you require

For further information please visit our website at www.welc.co.uk. To arrange a consultation for the above or advice concerning laser removal of: moles, facial thread veins, age/sun spots, tattoos and unwanted hair please telephone 01823 331773.



Beauty Zone

TREAT your Mum this Mothers Day to a visit to The Beauty Zone 31 Market Square,Crewkerne. 01460 75955.

We are offering a mini-facial, back, neck and shoulder massage for £48.50, and what's more YOU will receive a back, neck and shoulder massage for just £15.00 (usual price £23.00).

The Beauty Zone is a well established salon in the heart of Crewkerne and situated within 31 Hair Salon.

We use only the best products including the well known Dermalogica brand which is free from fragrance and parabens and is suitable for all skin types. We are highly trained and experienced therapists who are constantly updating our training and we pride ourselves on our high professional standards.

If you are looking for a relaxing hot stone massage, or manicure or waxing, you can be sure you are in good hands with the team at the Beauty Zone. We also provide a full wedding make-up package using Royal Effem cosmetics for a flawless finish on your big day.

Call in to the salon for an appointment or just for advice on any query you may have. We are more than happy to help, and look forward to seeing you. Telephone 01460 75955, www.the-beauty-zone.co.uk.

Petals Florist

PETALS Bespoke Florist offer flowers for Mother's Day, weddings and celebrations, get well and thinking of you, sympathy and remembrance, or just because occasions...

Beautiful flower designs are created especially for you by our qualified florists using the finest flowers, with arrangements for functions and corporate work undertaken as well.

Beautiful seasonal flowers are now in the shop to cheer us all up and we have a lovely collection based around them.

If you cannot find what you are looking for online, simply call us with your requirements or visit us in person, we also have a number of freshly designed gifts ready to take away on display in our shop.

To advertise on future features please call Matt Tipping on 01297 446142 or email matt@pemedia.co.uk

Flowers
Plants
Gifts
Balloons
Teddies
Chocolates
Cards

Petals Bespoke Florist
Tel/Fax: 01460 76002
4 London House, Market Square,
Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7JL
www.petalsbespokeflorist.co.uk
Email: pat@petalsbespokeflorist.co.uk
Beautiful flowers
for every occasion
Weddings
Celebrations • Gifts
Bereavement & Sympathy
Tributes
Local, National & International deliveries Interflora

The Beauty Zone
• Eyelash extensions
• Wedding make-up
• Facials
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• Pedicures
• Spray tanning
• Waxing • Electrolysis
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@ Number 31 Hair and Beauty,
Market Square, Crewkerne.
Tel: 01460 75955
For all your beauty requirements
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Cosmetic Injection & Laser Treatments
Dark circles, puffiness, wrinkles and creping of the skin can all make you look (and feel) old and tired
The West of England Laser Centre located at the Nuffield Hospital Taunton offers various treatments to revitalise and rejuvinate you appearance
• Injectables Restylane and muscle relaxants
• Blepharoplasty (eyelid surgery)
• Laser Skin Resurfacing
Be reassured that all treatments are performed by a consultant Ocuplastic Surgeon (Surgeon who specialises in plastic surgery around the eyes)
WEST of ENGLAND LASER CENTRE
Nuffield Health
Taunton Hospital,
Staplegrove Elm,
Taunton TA2 6AN
Tel: 01823 331773
www.welc.co.uk - email: lasercentre@lineone.net

BARRETT BROTHERS

NATIONAL Butchers week ends with Mothers Day and with our Special Offer on Prime aged Fore Ribs of Beef what better opportunity could there be for a treat.

Barrett Bros. Has had a year of successes with numerous Gold and Silver Awards in product evaluations and events. We have also retained our 5 Star FSA food hygiene rating and aced our independent inspection for the Q Guild.

We have been associated with quality meat for over 125 years and have long held a reputation for quality products, high standards of hygiene, with a proven track record of good service and delivery.

All our beef, lamb and pork arrives at the shop in carcass form and is prepared on the premises to the highest standards by our well trained butchers. Where appropriate beef is matured for at 21-28 days ensuring it is at its best when it reaches the table.

Being an independent butcher and buying all our meats as carcasses we are able to prepare any cut of meat in any manner, all you need to do is tell us what you would like us to prepare. We have prepared old fashioned Aitch bone joints, crown roasts, guards of honour, saddles of lamb plus many more specialty cuts.

At Barrett Bros, we believe in selling only the finest Meat and Meat Products, which is why we produce so much ourselves, including our own dry cured bacon, sausages and burgers, pies and pasties, faggots and home cooked meats.

QUEENSWAY BUTCHERS & GREENGROCERS

Family run Butcher and Greengrocers in Taunton for over 30 years.

QUEENSWAY Butchers & Greengroces specilise in delivering you the best possible produce at all times.

They will always try and buy locally sourced and always have the tastiest fruit and vegetables when in season. They are ideally located in the Comeytrowe Centre and have a Butcher, Greengrocer and Deli Counter all under one roof.

Queensway offer FREE local delivery and can do this on a regular basis. Please contact one of their helpful staff members to find out more.

There also is an in house Deli, offering a wide variety of cheese, snacks and cream. Products are locally sourced wherever possible. They can

advise you on the best cheese dependent on your taste pallet. If you prefer strong, mature cheese, they stock a wide variety of Stiltons and cheddars. Or if you prefer something a bit milder, Mozarella and Bries. Please contact Queensway if there is a certain cheese you would like and they will do our very best to get this in stock for you. Also on offer are a wide variety of sausage rolls, pasties, quiche and scotch eggs.

Why choose Queensway Butchers and Greengrocers?

- Butchers, Deli and Greengrocers located conveniently under one roof
- FREE local delivery
- Locally sourced produce wherever possible
- Home cooked beef, ham and turkey
- Homemade sausages
- We supply to many restaurants, hotels, care homes and pubs in the area
- Family run business
- Open for over 30 years

Visit us at 3-4 Comeytrowe Centre, Pitts Close, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4TN or phone 01823 212 170.

New campaign teaches how to shop for meat

THE seventh **National Butchers' Week**, which takes place between Monday, March 24th, and Sunday, March 30th, is launching a new campaign to teach the Internet generation how to shop for meat.

The leading industry magazine Meat Trades Journal, which organises the Week with the support of key industry sponsors, is using the occasion to create an online 'Idiot's Guide to the Butcher's Shop' to help young people pluck up the courage to pay their high street butcher a visit.

The annual event will also be highlighting the unique service provided by butcher's shops including their many unusual, exciting and often cheap cuts of meat which people simply can't find in their local supermarket, as well as showing customers how to cook them.

The measures are among a number taking place nationwide throughout the Week, which promises to be bigger and better than ever with butchers, schools and consumers all set to take part.

Dozens of special recipes to try out before, during and after National Butchers' Week - all celebrating the UK's rich heritage as a nation of meat lovers - can be found on this site.

Thousands of butchers throughout the country will also be holding special events throughout the Week, ranging from taster sessions aimed at enticing young people to sausage making demonstrations, which shoppers can take part in by dropping in at their local butcher.

If your planning something for **National Butchers' Week**, then drop us a line and let us know by contacting the editor of Meat Trades Journal, Ed Bedington on 01293 846567, or email him on ed.bedington@wrbm.com .

British Butchers beefed up by rising numbers on the high street

THE numbers of independent local butchers are rising on Britain's high streets as many shoppers turn away from supermarket meat shelves in favour of more traditional traders, according to a report by the butchery industry's leading magazine.

Meat Trades Journal says there has been a 9% increase overall in the numbers of independent butchers nationwide with some regions reporting rises of between 32% and 109%. The trend is thought to be due to a combination of the horsemeat scandal and celebrity chefs making traditional butchery seem "sexier".

This development comes just as British butchers are gearing up for the 7th annual National Butchers' Week which takes place between Monday, March 24th, and Sunday, March 30th, when thousands of butchers throughout the country will be holding special events ranging from taster sessions aimed at young people to sausage making demonstrations.

Meat Trades Journal, which organises the Week with the support of key industry sponsors, is using the occasion to create the first online "Idiots' Guide to the Butcher's Shop" to help young people pluck up the courage to pay their high street butcher a visit.

"It is really welcome news that there has been this increase in the numbers of high street butchers' shops and both ourselves and the industry at large will be doing all we can to ensure that it continues," said Ed Bedington, Editor of Meat Trades Journal.

"It is clear that overall the industry is in rude health. Growing numbers of shoppers recognise the quality and value of the service provided by butchers as well as the extent of their nutritional knowledge and skill, and are choosing them over other types of outlets."

weekender
life
arts & entertainment

Steve Knightley to play intimate Donyatt gig

See page 17

FLYING FOLK WING IT TO ILMINSTER ARTS CENTRE!

FEATURING an ever-changing line-up of fine folk artists from across the West Country, a new series of Flying Folk Evenings continue at Ilminster Arts Centre TONIGHT Friday, March 21st.

Already well-known for its programme of jazz concerts, The Flying Folk Evenings started last year and have proved to be a real success. Each evening features new faces, new voices, good musicianship, and original song writing and includes artists from across the folk spectrum from traditional to contemporary.

For this particular evening the line-up includes Ian and Martine, The Langfords, Ian Perry and LightGarden. Ian Perry is an emerging musician and poet based in Bristol. His songs fuse many influences and styles together, ranging from folk country and blues to boss, flamenco, soul and jazz, whilst retaining a distinctive integrity of voice and ambience. Iain and Martine, who are based in West Camel, create music that promises to make "your soul dance on your bones". Their passionate and playful fusion of guitar and violin will take you on an exciting journey from sublime reflection to recklessness - sometimes all in one tune! The Langfords are from Hanging Langford in Wiltshire and feature Alexa Mackenzie on lead vocal and guitar, Mark Kenchington on guitar and vocals and Mark Honan on bass guitar. They describe themselves as an original psychedelic country folk band, with Nashville guitar licks, soaring vocals and a touch of melancholy. LightGarden are also from Wiltshire and include David Moss on vocals, overtone chanting, bouzouki, and fiddle, Masha Kastner on harmonium, vocals, overtone chanting, and piano, and Rob Colquhoun on guitar, vocals, and mandolin. Rob joined in 2011 after a chance encounter at the Trowbridge Village Pump folk club. He brings a powerful driving energy to the sound, further increasing the band's versatility.

There is a delicious supper on offer prior to the show which includes mouth-watering Moroccan Chicken with rice and vegetables, followed by Black Forest Gateaux and coffee. This must be booked in advance through the Box Office: 01460 54973.

Tickets cost £10, and the pre-show supper costs £11. Music starts at 8pm, with food from 7pm.

London Jazz Festival comes to Bridport for a Family Friendly Daytime Show!

PREMIERED at the EFG London Jazz Festival, and fresh off the back of their 2014 debut performance at Sheffield City Hall, three more dates are announced for the brilliant Jazz All Stars family friendly daytime show.

Join the fabulous line-up featuring the brilliant vocals of jazz superstar Natalie Williams and some of the UK's finest jazz musicians in a fun-filled family concert. They will lead you through best-loved jazz classics and give a jazz twist to some children's film favourites including Disney classic The Jungle Book, The Wizard of Oz, The Flintstones and The Sound of Music.

This one-hour concert is a great introduction to jazz music for children aged 5-11 years and their families.

Lead singer of the Ronnie Scott's All Stars, Natalie Williams is an essential fixture in UK music and has performed with the likes of Jamie Cullum, Emeli Sandé, Lalah Hathaway and many more. Natalie tours extensively around the globe performing at a number of the world's leading live music events such as the renowned London Jazz Festival, Glastonbury, the Diamond Jubilee Pageant and most recently the BBC Proms – where she performed at the Royal Albert Hall with Laura Mvula and Maverick Sabre.

THe Jazz All Stars featuring Natalie Williams will perform at Electric Palace, Bridport on Saturday, March 29th. Doors open 2pm, and the show starts at 3pm. Tickets are £7 adults, £5 Children (+booking fee) in advance from Bridport TIC: 01308 424901 and seetickets.com

JAZZ STAR | Natalie Williams

The Henhayes Centre in Crewkerne
LOOK WHAT'S ON

Open to all 5 days a week for lunch, tea or coffee 9am to 4.30pm and Saturday mornings for coffee or tea and cakes from 10am to 12noon

The Centre can also be hired

Saturday 29th March
Pre Easter Breakfast
& 100 Club Draw
10.00am to 12noon

Wednesday 9th April
Easter Bingo
Eyes down at 2.30pm

Saturday 19th April
Easter Table Top Sale

Tables £5
Please phone the Centre to reserve a table

The Henhayes Centre,
South Street Car Park, Crewkerne
Tel: 01460 74340
www.henhayes.co.uk

Duet For One at Warehouse Theatre

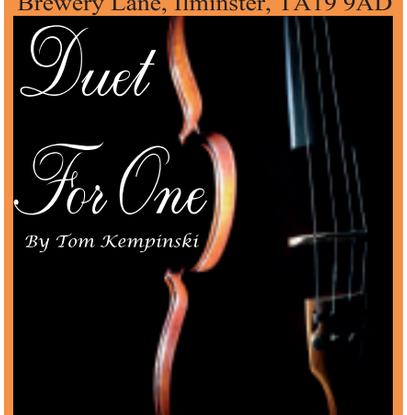
DUET for One is based on the life of renowned British cellist Jacqueline du Pré. She is particularly associated with Elgar's Cello Concerto in E Minor, her interpretation of which has been described as "definitive" and "legendary". Her career was cut short by multiple sclerosis, which forced her to stop performing at the age of 28, and led to her premature death. Posthumously, she was the subject of a film entitled "Hilary and Jackie" (based on her siblings' memoir, A Genius in the Family).

Duet for One tells the story of a virtuoso violinist, Stephanie Abrahams, who has had her career brought to a staggering halt by the onset of multiple sclerosis, which also threatens her marriage. Already in a wheelchair, Stephanie is advised - against her will - to consult with a psychiatrist by her concerned husband. The play is structured as sessions between Abrahams and her German shrink, Dr Feldmann – a man who shares her passionate love of music. Their exchanges build to become a battle of wills, during which Stephanie tries to cope with her illness and its effect on her life.

This immensely moving play won the London Theatre Critics Award for best play of 1980, and still packs an emotional punch, with the relationship between doctor and patient creating a satisfying and absorbing narrative.

Duet For One will be performed at The Warehouse Theatre, Ilminster from April 2nd - 5th, at 7.30pm each night. Tickets cost £8.50, £7.50 OAP, £7 child/student, and are available from Lanes Garden Shop or by calling 07943 779880.

THE WAREHOUSE THEATRE
Brewery Lane, Ilminster, TA19 9AD



2nd - 5th April at 7:30pm

Tickets at £8.50, OAP £7.50, Child/Student £7 available from
LANES GARDEN SHOP
Or by phoning 07943 779880
www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk Registered Charity Number 291177 - Company Number 1858240

PILATES

IF AT 30 YOU ARE, YOU ARE STIFF & OUT OF SHAPE - YOU ARE OLD! IF AT 60, YOU ARE SUPPLE & STRONG - YOU ARE YOUNG!" JOSEPH PILATES

MON - 4.00PM - EAST CHINNOCK HALL
TUE - 10.30AM - SWBBA, ILMINSTER
WED - 6.00PM - SWBBA, ILMINSTER

"IF YOU SUFFER FROM BACK OR JOINT PAIN, POOR POSTURE OR WEAK ABDOMINALS" - JOIN A CLASS TODAY

OVER 10 YEARS PILATES TEACHING EXPERIENCE & GP REFERRAL QUALIFIED. PROACTIVE SOMERSET TEAM

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A FUN LATIN INSPIRED DANCE WORKOUT FOR ALL AGES AND FITNESS LEVELS

MON - 2.00PM - WEST CHINNOCK HALL
MON - 6.00PM - SWBBA, ILMINSTER
TUE - 9.30AM - SWBBA, ILMINSTER
WED - 9.15AM - EAST CHINNOCK HALL
WED - 10.45AM - SOUTH PERROTT HALL

BUMS, LEGS & TUM
WED - 7.00PM - SWBBA, ILMINSTER

Call Ali - 01460 74546 - 0775 353 3727
www.beefitness.co.uk

Charitable Trust No: 245671

Ferne Animal Sanctuary

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- Over 300 animals
- Children's Play Areas
- A unique family experience
- Guided tours by prior arrangement
- Beautiful Nature Trail

Restaurant & Coffee Shop open 10am-4pm

2014 Visitor Pass:
Adult £2/Child £1/Family £5
(Suspended on event days when separate charges apply)

Tel: 01460 65214 • www.ferneanimalsanctuary.org

CREWKERNE WEEKLY MARKET

NEW LOCATION IN MARKET SQUARE

Every Wednesday - 9am to 1pm

Fruit & veg, bread, pastries, fresh fish, herbs & spices, plants, yarn, tools & much more...

For more information call Crewkerne Town Council on 01460 74001
or visit www.crewkernetown.org/TownCouncil

ILMINSTER
arts centre
AT THE MEETING HOUSE

Flying Folk
Friday 21st March at 8pm
Tickets: £10. Pre-show Supper £11 at 7pm (must be pre-booked))
Traditional and contemporary folk artists from across the West Country come together for an evening of original music. Featuring Ian and Martine, The Langfords, Ian Perry and LightGarden.

Antique and Vintage Collectables Fair
Saturday 22nd March
9.30am - 3.30pm. Free
Discover a wide range of stalls selling vintage textiles, glass, china, collectables and curios.

Booking details: 01460 54973
www.themeetinghouse.org.uk
info@themeetinghouse.org.uk
East Street, Ilminster, Somerset. TA19 0AN.
Open Mon-Fri 9.30-4.30, Sat 10.00-2.30.

Cotley Hedgelaying and Vintage Ploughing competition

Anything you can do, I can do better – the ladies take on the men at the Cotley hedgelaying and Vintage Ploughing competition at Cotley Farm on Saturday 29th March 2014

LADIES will compete once again in this year's Cotley hedgelaying competitionand they will also be on show in the vintage Ploughing match which will take place in the same fields as the hedgelaying competition on Saturday, March 29th..

Alongside the vintage tractors match and the hedgelaying competition there will be a heavy horse demonstration, a modern 5 furrow plough demonstration and a static display of vintage tractors and machinery through the ages.

All proceeds from the day will go the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance which provides a valuable service for everyone living in those counties. The Helicopter based at Henstridge Airfield can be at any point in the two counties within 19 minutes of receiving the emergency call. More importantly the helicopter can take a patient to any one of the Major Trauma Centres in the South West within a further 20 minutes. This service is totally reliant on fundraising each year and this is the charity that could be of importance to every single one of us.

The hedge laying kicks off at 9.30am and all visitors are welcome to watch the contestants in action. There are four classes this year - an Open Class for expert hedge layers who have already won several competitions (sponsored by Pearce Seeds Ltd), an Intermediate Class for experienced hedge layers, a Novice Pairs Class for pairs of less experienced hedge layers, and a Ladies Class (sponsored by Roger Parris, one of the leading lights of the National Hedgelaying Society).

At 11am, there will be a break of around half an hour for the start of the ploughing match which will see over 25 tractors and ploughs set off for their first furrow. The Heavy Horses sponsored by River Cottage, Simon Burrough Engineering and Alastair Townshend will be giving demonstrations throughout the day. Prize giving for both competitions will take place at about 4pm. followed by a delicious tea with homemade cakes and biscuits. A bar and barbecue will be available throughout the day.

The Cotley Hedge Laying and vintage tractor ploughing Competition, Saturday 29th March, 9.30am-3.30pm, Cotley Farm, Cotley, Chard TA20 3EP. Free Entrance, but donation bucket for Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance. The event will be signposted from Chard. For further information, please contact: Mary Perry on 01460 66543.

Discover a wide range of stalls at Antiques Fair!

THE next Antiques and Vintage Collectables Fair takes place at Ilminster Arts Centre this Saturday, March 22nd.

As always, visitors can expect a wide range of stalls selling everything from vintage china and textiles to glassware, antique jewellery and silver, plus a selection of collectables and curios.

On the day the Galleries - which will be featuring the 'Inspiration from The Blackdowns' Exhibition - and Craft Shop will be open 9.30am-3.30pm and the Arts Centre's Café 9.30am-3pm making Ilminster Arts Centre the perfect place to relax and enjoy a leisurely Saturday.

If you are interested in having a stall, please call: 01460 54973. Forthcoming Antiques and Vintage Collectables Fairs take place on 22nd March and 19th April, with more dates being announced shortly.

Show of Hands' Steve Knightley for Donyatt gig

STEVE Knightley is probably best known as half of Show Of Hands, one of the Country's foremost acoustic roots duos. Many of Steve's songs are inspired by the land, the seas and the people of the West Country, where he was born and brought up.

Steve write songs about a variety of characters from urban drug dealers to the disenfranchised rural community, he is a storyteller par excellence and is someone who is grounded in the West Country. Show of Hands achieved their success through sheer hard work and honing their craft as opposed to being catapulted to success via the media and this has meant that they have built up a loyal following both in this country and abroad. Show of Hands have performed 4 times at The Royal Albert Hall and also appeared on Radio and Television and Grow Your Own Gig is Steve's mission to take songs and music back to places that Show of Hands don't play now and is a great opportunity to see a master of his craft in an intimate setting.

Steve will be performing at Donyatt Village Hall on Friday, May 9th. For details please contact Mike on 01460 73946

Paul Metcalfe as
ROD STEWART
with his live band
Sat 29th March
Doors 7.30pm
£12.00 in advance
£15.00 on the door

Bolshoi
MARCO SPADA
Sun 30th March
Doors 3pm
Performance 4pm
£15.00 in advance
£17.50 on the door

ROMEO & JULIET
Starring
Condola Rashad
& Orlando Bloom
Tues 1st April
Doors 6pm
Performance 7pm
£12.50 in advance
£15.00 on the door

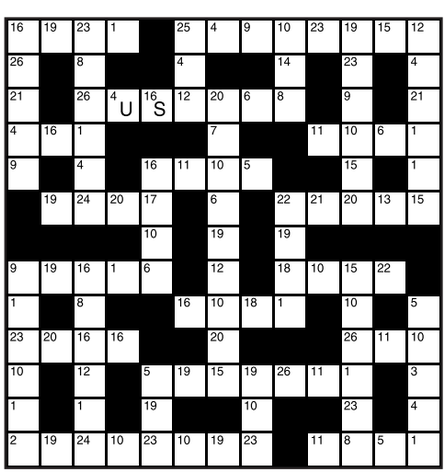
Met Opera
Puccini's
LA BOHÈME
Sun 6th April
Doors 3pm
Performance 4pm
£15.00 in advance
£17.50 on the door

THE GATEWAY
To a World of Entertainment
BOX OFFICE 10am-4pm (Sat 10am-1pm)
Tel: 01297 625699
www.seatongateway.co.uk

Brain Gym No.265

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



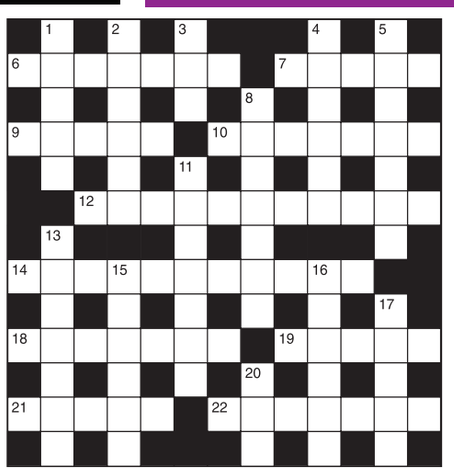
1	14
2	15
3	16 S
4 U	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
G	Y	M	L	I	T	Q	P	F	C	J	X	R
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
E	U	Z	O	K	A	D	W	B	H	S	V	N

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

6. He decides to make a rarebit (7)
7. Soft melodies for couples (5)
9. Appears to make sound joints (5)
10. He's nice and foreign (7)
12. Intelligence in the making (11)
14. It won't keep you fully occupied (4-4,3)
18. One needs a couple of rings to get this number (7)
19. Turner writes articles in French and English (5)
21. Separate verse form (5)
22. His initial confusion was amusing (7)

Down

1. In a small way you'll find me prepared to fight (5)
2. He may fly from Marian (6)
3. Carve a name, we hear (3)
4. Edible wood? (6)
5. Don't stop, although a person's upset (5,2)
8. My niche, a cleft in a cliff? (7)
11. A fir-cone, perhaps, seen in the wood (7)
13. Greetings that affect us least (7)
15. I tried a more orderly arrangement (6)
16. A speaker who is skilled at splitting alternatives (6)
17. What he does is appropriate (5)
20. Fit for a little physical training (3)

Quick Clues:

Across

6. Watery (7)
7. Narrative (5)
9. Devoutness (5)
10. Advent (7)
12. Incitement (11)
14. Disbelief (11)
18. Clearness (7)
19. Amusing (5)
21. Confuse (5)
22. Aid (7)

Down

1. Fit out (5)
2. Improved (6)
3. Owing (3)
4. Rigorous (6)
5. Producer (7)
8. Small thorn (7)
11. Greed (7)
13. Contain (7)
15. Seldom (6)
16. Three times (6)
17. Mock (5)
20. Shed (3)

Sudoku

	1	3			6		2	
8	7		5		4			6
				8		1		
9	5		1					
	8	4		3		7	6	
					5		1	9
				6				
	9	8	4		7		3	1
	2					6	7	

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

7	6	3	1	9	8	2	5	4
4	9	2	3	6	5	1	7	8
8	5	1	2	4	7	6	3	9
5	4	8	9	7	6	3	2	1
9	1	6	5	3	2	8	4	7
3	2	7	4	8	1	5	9	6
1	3	9	6	2	4	7	8	5
6	8	4	7	5	3	9	1	2
2	7	5	8	1	9	4	6	3

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Detonation; 7 Aroma; 8 Toddler; 10 Long shot; 11 Harp; 13 Recipe; 15 Damsel; 17 Aces; 18 Reserved; 21 Earnest; 22 Dense; 23 By and large. Down: 1 Drown; 2 Transept; 3 Notion; 4 To-do; 5 Orleans; 6 Tailor-made; 9 Rope ladder; 12 Lavender; 14 Clearly; 16 Dental; 19 Venue; 20 Lean. QUICK - Across: 1 Particular; 7 Aired; 8 Special; 10 Dismayed; 11 Ring; 13 Employ; 15 Street; 17 Drop; 18 Well-do-to; 21 Diploma; 22 Avers; 23 Prospectus. Down: 1 Parts; 2 Radiator; 3 Instep; 4 Used; 5 Asinine; 6 Hard-headed; 9 Lighthouse; 12 Stalwart; 14 Prosper; 16 Relate; 19 Omens; 20 Toss.

Diary Dates

FRIDAY MARCH 21ST

CHARD: Friendship and Sons funeral directors at 15 High Street, Chard, will be holding a coffee morning from 11am -2pm in aid of the Catherine Wells-Burr Foundation. The foundation was set up by the family of local girl Catherine Wells-Burr, following her murder. The money raised will help support other victims' families coping with the financial and emotional strain of facing court cases due to murder or manslaughter.

SATURDAY MARCH 22ND

WHITELACKINGTON: Bric-a-brac/Table Top Sale at Whitelackington Village Hall, from 10am-1pm. Tables £5, to book a table call 01460 259565. Ample parking, refreshments available. Charity number 246963.

TATWORTH: Cabaret Night at the Perry Street Club. The club welcomes Simon Sands, Compere and Comedian, plus Rogue Minogue, Kylie Minogue tribute act. Tickets £10 in advance, £12.50 on the door. Tickets are available at the club or telephone Jacques on 07745 806773 to book. Doors open at 7:30pm, entertainment 9pm to 12:30am.

MERRIOTT: Live music with Colin Elswood at Merriott Social Club, 9pm. Free.

BARRINGTON: Barrington Market. 10am-12noon at the village hall. Variety of local produce and local craft.

SATURDAY MARCH 22ND & SUNDAY MARCH 23RD

NORTH PERROTT: Sale of paintings 10am-5pm both days at 23 North Perrott. Proceeds to St Martin's Church Roof Fund. For more details call 01460 78294.

MONDAY MARCH 24TH

MISTERTON: Bingo at the village hall, eyes down 7.30pm.

TUESDAY MARCH 25TH

CREWKERNE: Easter Bingo at St Bartholomew's C of E First School, Kithill. Doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

CREWKERNE: Are you over 70 or do you know anyone over 70? Come to The Henhayes Centre at 10am for either a cup of tea and biscuits and stay until 2.30pm after enjoying a wholesome lunch. All this for £6.50 (including a session charge). Transport can be arranged. Please ring 01460 74340 for more information.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 26TH

CREWKERNE: Dementia awareness event at Henhayes Centre, 2.30-4.30pm. A series of short talks on Dementia, followed by Q&A session. Panel includes Dr Antony Christopher (Consultant Psychiatrist South Somerset), Dr Iain Phillips (GP and CCG Clinical Lead for Dementia), Dr Sarah Pearce (GP Springmead Surgery, Chard) and Jill Lock (Alzheimer's Society). For more details and if you'd like to ask a question (please provide details in advance) call 01460 52354.

MERRIOTT: Merriott Gardening Club meeting. Returning by popular demand, Neil Lovesey of Picket Lane Nursery will give a talk entitled "Propagation 2". If you need help with propagating a favourite something, this is the man to ask. Meet at the Tythe Barn, at 7.30pm. Refreshments, raffle, plants and seeds sale and much more. A friendly welcome awaits.

SOUTH PETHERTON: Local History Group. 'Indoors, outdoors, servants' lives' - researched and presented by local historian Sarah Villiers. At South Petherton Methodist Church Hall, 7.30pm. Visitors welcome £2.

CREWKERNE: Bingo – cash prizes. Eyes down at 2.30pm. At Henhayes Centre.

YEOVIL: 'In Celebration of Peace - In Remembrance of War' concert by Yeovil Chamber Choir at St Andrew's Church, Preston Grove at 7.30pm. Tickets, available on the door or by calling 01935 873719, £10 to include wine and refreshments.

CHARD: Chard Guildhall fundraiser for the Youth Centre 3-5pm tea & cakes

THURSDAY MARCH 27TH

CREWKERNE: Folk dancing at St. Bartholomew's Church Hall. Every Thursday 8pm-10pm. Beginners welcome. For more details call Denise 01460 77320.

MERRIOTT: AGM at Merriott Social Club, 7.30pm.

CREWKERNE: Over 50s Keep Fit at Henhayes Centre. Class begins at 10am and costs £3 for non members.

FRIDAY MARCH 28TH

TATWORTH: Film: 'Philomena' presented by T&F Movies. At Tatworth Memorial Hall, doors open 7.15pm, film from 8pm. For more details call 01460 220198.

MISTERTON: AGM at Misterton Village Hall, 7.30pm.

TATWORTH: Latin Night at Perry Street Club. A night of fun, solo dancing. Easy to follow steps, to salsa, cha, cha, meringue and bachata. All proceeds to go to The Jemima Layzell Trust. Doors open 7pm. Dancining 7.30-10pm. Tickets £12 includes light buffet. All tickets must be paidfor prior to the event. Please contact Celia: 07971 675577.

SOUTH PETHERTON: World War I Evening - South Somerset Peace Group are holding an evening of poetry, prose and song, reflecting World War I European perspectives. It takes place at 7.30pm at the David Hall. Tickets cost £7, the proceeds will go to supporting the work for landmine and cluster bomb victims. They are available at www.thedavidhall.org.uk or by calling 01460 240340.

ILMINSTER: Somerset Wildlife Trust Ilminster/Chard 7.30pm. Matt Williams, collections manager of the Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution will give a presentation on the fossils of Jurassic Ecosystem of Strawberry Bank, Ilminster, which were found in 1840s by Ilminster-born geologist Charles Moore. Everyone welcome £2 adults + refreshments. Parish Hall, North Street, TA19 0DG

SATURDAY MARCH 29TH

TATWORTH: Ceilidh and Barn Dance in aid of Tatworth Community Defibrillator Fund. At Tatworth Memorial Hall, 7.30pm. Tickets (in advance) £7, to include Buffet, cash Bar. Band Long Odds and Short Straws plus caller. All welcome fun for all ages no experience necessary. Please contact Angela Long 220953 or Tessa Leeds 220867

CREWKERNE: Spring Craft Fair at Wadham School from 10am-2pm. Free entry with refreshments available. Demonstrations, mini workshops and a photography exhibition for you to enjoy.

CREWKERNE: Flood Appeal Concert at St Bartholomew's Church, starting 7.30pm. Music from Phoenix Brass Band, Dark Town Strutters, Jeroka Folk Group and the Church Choir with Soloists Ros Broad & Alex Best, and local choir Crewners. Interval drinks and a raffle, all money raised donated to Somerset Flood Appeal.

MERRIOTT: New To You Sale in the Tithe Barn from 10am-11.30am. Bargains and refreshments. Proceeds to Merriott Church. For more details call 01460 72704.

MERRIOTT: Bingo at Merriott Social Club in aid of ups and downs southwest, helping family's with Down syndrome children. Eyes down 7.30pm. Lots of fantastic prizes

SOUTH PETHERTON: Spring Sale from 10am to 12 noon at the Methodist Church. Entry is free and stalls will include cakes, preserves, toys, books & CDs, bric-a-brac, raffle & tombola. Refreshments will be served.

CREWKERNE: Breakfast and 100 Club Draw at Henhayes Centre, 10.00am to 12noon

SUNDAY MARCH 30TH

MERRIOTT: 'A Viola Fantasy' - Mothering Sunday Treat, with reveshements from 3pm at All Saints Church. Tickets £5 (under 18s free), available from Osborne Stores (Broadway), Crewkerne Information Centre or call 01460 76360 to reserve. Profits from the concert towards Lychgate Repair.

MONDAY MARCH 31ST

MISTERTON: Charity Bingo at the village hall. In aid of Mosterton pre-school's new building project.

TUESDAY APRIL 1ST

CHARD: Chard Ladies Evening Guild. Yvonne Johnson will be talking about 'wearable art' at 7.30pm at Manor Court School. All visitors welcome.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 2ND

CLAPTON: Sew, knit & natter at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall. 10.30am, all welcome; details from 01460 72837

THURSDAY APRIL 3RD

CLAPTON: Clapton & Wayford Film Society showing 'In Love with Alma Cogan' (2011 British romantic comedy, filmed around the Pavilion Theatre in Cromer, Norfolk) on in the village hall. Doors open and tea/coffee & biscuits available from 7.30pm; AGM takes place at 8pm prompt, followed by the film. Membership subscriptions can be taken for the following season (starting in September 2014). New members always welcome; guest tickets may be booked in advance. Call 01460 74849 or 01460 30508 for details.

CHARD: Chard Camera Club - Club Night. 7.30pm at the Baptist Church Hall, instruction to Resizing images, Colour space and file types. Members to submit their Digitally projected images on the special subject of 'Waters edge' and Open DPI's and print entries for the in- club competition to be held on the 17th April. We are always open to accepting new members who can contact the members secretary Peter Partridge 01460 66885 or via our site chardcameraclub.org.uk

FRIDAY APRIL 4TH

CHARD: Three Counties Swing Band in the Guildhall, starting 7.30pm. Tickets £7.50 and includes ham or cheese ploughman's. Tickets on sale in Chard TIC. All proceeds to the Mayors Charity Fund.

SATURDAY APRIL 5TH

CLAPTON: Quiz & supper evening at 7pm at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall. All welcome; come in a team or join one on the night. Prizes will be awarded to the winning team and there will be a raffle & licensed bar. Please book places in advance by calling 01460 75380; £8 entrance includes a hot supper.

MONDAY APRIL 7TH

MISTERTON: Easter Bingo at Misterton Village Hall. Doors open 6.30pm, for 7.30pm eyes down. Good prizes including hampers, store vouchers, Easter eggs, lots of chocolates, etc. Raffle, tombola, cuddly toy and light refreshments. £1 for book of ten games. Raising funds for Misterton W.I. Enq. 01460 74808.

TUESDAY APRIL 8TH

CHARD: Chard WI Meeting at 7.30pm at the Baptist Church Hall, Holyrood Street. Visitors and new members welcome. 2nd Tuesday of every month (Excluding August).

WEDNESDAY APRIL 9TH

CREWKERNE: Easter Bingo "eyes down" at 2.30pm, at Henhayes Centre.

THURSDAY APRIL 10TH

CHARD: Chard Royal Naval Association. Club social night will be held at the Happy Return public house Chard at 7.30pm for an evening of skittles with pasty and chips supper. New members are always made welcome and can contact the RNA via Chard Branch secretary Roy Lovell 01460 65362, chairman Paula Moon 01460 929041 or royalnavalassociation.com

Rip-roaring comedy from CLOS

FOR many people, the golden years of British TV comedy came around the end of the 1960s when we giggled and guffawed at popular series such as Dad's Army, Till Death Us Do Part, Steptoe & Son and an hilarious romp set in ancient Rome and starring comedian Frankie Howerd – Up Pompeii.

Few people realise that the inspiration for this series came largely from a musical comedy composed and written in 1962 by Stephen Sondheim called "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum", based on a book by Burt Shedlove and Larry Gelbart (the creator and producer of M*A*S*H).

Having decided to move its main production from October to March, Chard Light Operatic Society (CLOS) also made the bold decision to select this show as its next musical, which will take place at The Guildhall, Chard from Thursday 27th to Saturday 29th March.

Recent CLOS productions of popular shows such as 'The Pajama Game', 'The Sound of Music' and 'Me and My Girl' have been highly acclaimed. In fact, many show-goers have described them as being "better than you see in the West End", and the cast of this latest show are sure that their audiences will be just as satisfied.

The unusual title of the musical comes from the line that comedians often used to begin a story: "A funny thing happened on the way to the theatre". It tells the bawdy story of the lying, cheating slave Pseudolus (played by Neil Wells) and his attempts to win his freedom by helping his young master, Hero (Adam Chudley) to woo Philia, the girl next door, charmingly played by Silvey Webber. Only one problem: the virgin Philia has already been sold to a far more powerful man!

With a plot that includes all the elements of the classic farce there is something for everyone; audiences can look forward to serious satire, outrageous puns and unbelievable cases of mistaken identity as well as voluptuous courtesans, uproarious funerals and, of course, lots of chases.

The opening number, Comedy Tonight, is among the most well-known songs from any musical and there are plenty of others to make you laugh (and cry) including the heartfelt Everybody Ought To Have A Maid, sung by the hen-pecked Senex (Greg Groves), Pseudolus, chief slave Hystericum (Andy Treble) and 'purveyor of the courtesans' (or pimp!) Marcus Lycus (Ian Craig), the rousing Bring Me My Bride, featuring Ian Crew as the boastful Roman captain Miles Gloriosus and the intriguingly titled That Dirty Old Man, sung by Senex's wife Domina (Marjie Dorling).

Performances start at 7.30pm nightly on Thursday 27th, Friday 28th and Saturday, March 29th with a matinée on Saturday at 2.30pm and tickets for the show are on sale now at Barron's, Holyrood Street, Chard.

▲ PSEUDOLUS GETS AN EYEFUL! | Back l to r: Miles Gloriosus (Ian Crew) & Hero (Adam Chudley); Front l to r: Philia (Silvey Webber), Pseudolus (Neil Wells) & Gymnasia (Vanessa Cross)

CINEMA LISTINGS

Friday, Mar 21st - Thursday, Mar 27th

ALL LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

YEOVIL CINEWORLD

Yeo Leisure Park, Old Station Rd

Tel: 0871 200 2000

www.cineworld.co.uk

Need For Speed 12A
Fri, Mon: 12.10, 14.20, 15.10, 17.20, 18.10, 20.20, 21.10
Sat, Sun, Tue: 12.10, 15.10, 17.20, 18.10, 20.20, 21.10
Wed & Thu: 14.20, 17.20, 20.20

300: Rise Of An Empire 15
Daily: 12.30, 15.15, 18.00, 20.45

The Grand Budapest Hotel 15
Fri, Mon-Wed: 12.45, 15.15, 17.30, 20.00
Sat & Sun: 17.30, 20.00

The Lego Movie U
Fri, Mon, Tue: 16.00
Sat: 11.30, 12.20, 14.50
Sun: 11.00, 12.20, 13.30, 14.50, 16.00

Non-Stop 12A
Fri, Mon, Tue: 13.15, 18.30, 21.20
Sat: 21.20, Sun: 18.30, 21.20

Moshi Monsters U
Sat & Sun: 10.20am

The Book Thief 12A
Fri, Mon, Tue: 15.00

Escape From Planet Earth U
Sat & Sun: 13.20

Mr Peabody and Sherman U
Sat & Sun: 11.30, 13.50

Tinker Bell and The Pirate Fairy U
Sat: 12.40, 10.30, 12.40

12 Years A Slave 15
Fri, Mon, Tue: 18.00

Ride Along 12A
Fri, Mon, Tue: 21.00

Captain America The Winter Soldier 12A
Wed & Thu: 13.10, 13.50, 14.40, 16.20, 17.00, 17.50, 19.30, 20.15, 21.00

A Long Way Down 15
Fri, Mon, Tue, Thu: 13.50, 16.10, 18.30, 20.50
Sat, Sun, Wed: 18.30, 20.50

Muppets Most Wanted U
Sat & Sun: 10.15, 11.15, 12.00, 13.00, 14.00, 14.40, 15.45, 16.45, 19.30

Starred Up 18
Daily: 16.10, 18.50, 21.30
plus Fri, Mon-Thu: 13.30

Labor Day 12A
Daily: 14.50, 17.40, 20.30

About Last Night 15
Daily: 15.40, 18.10, 20.40
plus Fri, Mon-Thu: 13.10

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12 Years A Slave 15
Fri, Mon: 14.30, 20.30, Tue: 20.30

300: Rise Of An Empire 3D 15
Fri-Tue: 21.15

300: Rise Of An Empire 2D 15
Fri, Sun-Tue: 18.15

A Long Way Down 15
Daily: 15.40, 18.10, 20.40

Captain America The Winter Soldier 3D 12A
Wed & Thu: 13.40, 16.50, 19.00, 20.00

Captain America The Winter Soldier 2D 12A
Wed: 11.00, 14.40, 17.50, 21.00
Thu: 14.40, 17.50, 21.00

Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs 2 U
Sat & Sun: 11.00am

Escape From Planet Earth 2D U
Fri-Mon, Thu: 13.20

Gravity 12A Fri, Mon, Wed, Thu: 13.15

Labor Day 12A
Daily: 14.50, 17.30, 20.15

Mr Peabody and Sherman in 2D U
Sat, Sun & Wed: 10.50am

Muppets Most Wanted 2D U
Sat & Sun: 10.30, 11.40, 13.00, 14.20, 15.50, 17.10, 18.30, 19.50
Wed: 10.40, 11.40, 13.20, 14.20, 17.10

Need For Speed 3D 12A
Fri, Sun-Thu: 15.30, 21.00
Sat: 16.00, 21.30

Need For Speed 2D 12A
Fri, Sun, Mon, Wed & Thu: 12.45, 18.15, Sat: 13.15, 18.45, Tue: 18.15

Non-Stop 12A
Fri, Mon: 13.30, 16.00, 18.30, 21.00, Sat & Sun: 13.15, 21.00, Tue: 16.00, 18.30

Starred Up 18
Daily: 16.15, 18.45, 21.15

The Book Thief 12A
Fri, Mon, Tue: 17.30

The Grand Budapest Hotel 15
Fri-Mon, Thu: 13.00, 15.30, 18.00, 20.30, Tue: 15.30, 18.00, 20.30, Wed: 20.30

The Lego Movie in 3D U
Sat & Sun: 12.15

The Lego Movie in 2D U
Fri, Mon, Thu: 13.30, 15.45
Sat, Sun, Wed: 11.15, 13.30, 15.45, Tue: 15.45

This week's new cinema releases

LABOR DAY 12A

DEPRESSED single mum Adele and her son Henry offer a wounded, fearsome man a ride. As police search town for the escaped convict, the mother and son gradually learn his true story as their options become increasingly limited.

Stars Kate Winslet, Josh Brolin and Gattlin Griffith.

A LONG WAY DOWN 15

FOUR people meet on New Year's Eve and form a surrogate family to help one another weather the difficulties of their lives.

Stars Aaron Paul, Imogen Poots and Rosamund Pike.

ABOUT LAST NIGHT 15

FOLLOW two couples as they journey from the bar to the bedroom and are eventually put to the test in the real world.

Stars Kevin Hart, Michael Ealy and Regina Hall.

STARRED UP 18

A TROUBLED and explosively violent teenager is transferred to adult prison where he finally meets his match - a man who also happens to be his father.

Stars Jack O'Connell, Rupert Friend and Ben Mendelsohn.

BLOOD TIES 15

TWO brothers, on either side of the law, face off over organized crime in Brooklyn during the 1970s.

Stars Clive Owen, Marion Cotillard and Billy Crudup.

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AXMINSTER £430pcm 1 bed UF EPC D

CHARD £410pcm 1 bed UF

SEATON £480pcm 1 bed UF EPC E

SEATON £999pcm 3 bed UF
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HONITON £650pcm 2 bed UF EPC D

SEATON £650pcm 2 bed UF EPC E

SEATON £695pcm 3 bed UF EPC E

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Holyrood Street, Chard

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Holyrood Street, Chard

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Holyrood Street, Chard

Open plan living space with bathroom off. Downstairs two double bedrooms. Gas central heating. Courtyard garden. Let at £550 pcm. A ready rented investment!

£115,000

Kents Bungalows, South Chard

Great sized 2 bedroom bungalow of c. 762 sq ft in tucked away village location. Hallway, living/dining room, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom, utility store room, and private rear garden. Gas CH'g & PVC dbl gzg.

£135,000

Halcombe, Chard

Great value 3 bedroom house with garage! Hallway with WC off, living room, dining room with patio doors leading out to the garden, and kitchen. Upstairs 3 good sized bedrooms and a bathroom. Outside gardens & garage.

£145,000

Victoria Avenue, Chard

Fabulous sized 4 bedroom character home. Living room, separate dining room, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms & bathroom, and above the large attic 4th bedroom. Gas CH'g & PVC dbl gzg. Gardens. A lot of house for sure

£149,950

Bilston Villas, Chard

A Beautifully refurbished and spacious victorian home convenient for the town. Living room, large dining room, smart white fitted kitchen, 3 good sized bedrooms, bathroom/ WC & sep bonus WC. Gas CH'g. PVC dbl glzg. Garden.

£157,500

Crimchard, Chard

Spacious character 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 reception detached cottage of c. 949 sq ft in non estate location, Good sized gardens, off road driveway parking. Gas CH'g & PVC dbl glzg. A real GEM!

£165,000

Wessex Close, Chard

Lovely extended 3 bedroom family home with gardens & garage in popular cul de sac. Hall, cloaks, living room, kitchen with dining room off, 3 good sized bedrooms, bathroom, garage, parking, & gardens. Gas CH'g & PVC dbl glzg.

£179,950

Bampton Avenue, Chard

Spacious link detached 4 bedroom house of c. 1218 sq ft (113.2 sq m) in popular area. Porch, hall with cloaks, living room, separate dining room, smart oak kitchen, conservatory, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, parking & gardens.

£205,000

Nursery Gardens, Chard

Fabulous detached bungalow with conservatory & garden on good sized level plot. Hall, living room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, conservatory, garage, parking & gardens. PVC dbl glzg & gas CH'g.

£225,000

Hornsbury Hill, Chard

Great sized house, workshop, garage & yard totalling c. 1834 sq ft on the edge of town. Large living room, superb oak kitchen diner with sep utility, study, bathroom, & 3 bedrooms. Outside yard, workshop, garage & gardens.

£235,000

Manor Farm Close, Tatworth

Lovely 3 bedroom detached bungalow with conservatory, garage, parking & gardens. Hallway, living room, kitchen diner, utility, 3 beds, bathroom, conservatory, and garage. PVC dbl glzg. Gas warm air heating. Lovely!

£265,000

Mervyn Ball, Chard

Large 4 bedroom detached house with double garage of about 1975 sq ft. Hall, cloaks, large living room, dining room, study, kitchen diner with utility off, 4 large bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double garage & gardens.

£350,000

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Caraway Close, Chard

3 bedroom family home with garage & gardens. Hallway with cloakroom, living room, kitchen diner, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, garage, parking & garden. Gas CH'g & PVC dbl glzg.

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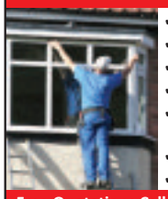

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New Porsche Cayman GTS Resets Sports Coupe Benchmark

The new Porsche Cayman GTS is the most powerful and fastest edition of the mid-engined coupe from the German sports car manufacturer to date. With an uprated engine and sharpened chassis responses, the Cayman GTS sets a new benchmark for sporting performance in its market.

Since its debut in 2005, the Cayman has earned a particular reputation as a driver's car. At the heart of the two-seater beats a charismatic flat-six engine, positioned deep in the middle of the chassis to offer a low centre of gravity for a balanced and precise driving experience. Furthermore, the distinctive coupe styling confers a high level of torsional rigidity which further enhances the dynamic virtuosity.

The six-cylinder 'boxer' engine in the Cayman GTS is based on the 3.4-litre engine of the Cayman S. Specific fine tuning has delivered an additional 15 hp (11 kW), with the result that the Cayman GTS offers 340 hp (250 kW). The torque has also increased by ten newton metres to 380 Nm.

Further emphasising the distinctive character of the GTS is the Sport Chrono package and Porsche Active Suspension Management (PASM), fitted as standard. These offer the driver the opportunity to not only modify the damper stiffness, but also subtly change the throttle characteristics of the engine. In conjunction with the optional Doppelkupplungsgetriebe (PDK) seven-speed double-clutch transmission, the Launch Control function accessed via the Sport Plus button enables the Cayman GTS to accelerate from 0-62 mph in 4.6 seconds, 0.3 secs quicker than a standard Cayman S with PDK.

With the standard manual six-speed transmission, a top speed of 177 mph is possible. The new GTS is also the first mid-engined Porsche coupe to be certified according to the Euro 6 emissions standard, and achieves an overall fuel consumption with PDK of 34.4 mpg Combined (31.4 mpg with manual transmission).

The dynamic engine mounts also offered as part of the Sport Chrono package enables the Cayman GTS to offer an impressive breadth of chassis responsiveness. Under acceleration, cornering or braking, the mountings between the body shell and engine stiffen automatically to reduce the effects of mass transfer during dynamic manoeuvres, further increasing agility.

Furthermore, the standard fit Porsche Active Suspension Management (PASM) enables the driver to switch between progressive sporting behaviour and long-distance comfort at the press of a button. Stylish black painted 20-inch diameter Carrera S alloy wheels riding on 235/35 tyres at the front and 265/35 tyres at the rear complete the chassis set-up.

The Cayman GTS can also be specified with a new, optional sports chassis configuration that lowers the ride height by 20 mm, underlying the fact that at the heart of every Porsche is a race car suitable for both the circuit and everyday use.

The strong, individual character of the Cayman gains further independence with the GTS model. A distinctively styled front spoiler and black-finish Bi-Xenon headlights – with the Porsche Dynamic Light System (PDLS) as standard – are a subtle clue to the new model's identity, which is confirmed from behind with exterior lettering in silky black gloss finish, and a re-styled lower rear apron.

Inside, bolstered sports seats and leather trim are standard. Like other Porsche GTS models, the sporting ambience of the interior is refined with Alcantara elements.

▲ New Porsche Cayman GTS

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The New Mercedes-Benz S 63 AMG Coupé

▲ The new Mercedes-Benz S 63 AMG Coupé

The new S 63 AMG Coupé is the latest dream car to augment the Mercedes-AMG model range. Exciting lines underpin this two-door model's design. Dominance and sensual purity combine to lend the vehicle irresistible presence and effortlessly superior sportiness. Equally impressive is the combination of high driving dynamics, ambitious lightweight construction and groundbreaking efficiency. As the most powerful member of the BlueDIRECT engine family, the AMG 5.5-litre V8 biturbo engine is a paragon of poise and assurance. Boasting an output of 585 hp and 900 Nm of torque, the S 63 AMG Coupé delivers exceptional performance with remarkably low fuel consumption. And there is a world first in the shape of the curve tilting function, part of the MAGIC BODY CONTROL suspension system, to further enhance both driving pleasure and comfort.

Tobias Moers, Chairman of the Board of Management of Mercedes-AMG GmbH: "The new S 63 AMG Coupé is another exciting AMG dream car in the luxury segment. Mercedes-AMG is putting the pedal to the metal again in the new year. Our model initiative is set to continue at blistering pace in 2014."

65 kilograms lighter thanks to AMG Lightweight Performance

The S 63 AMG Coupé is the latest model to benefit from the systematic implementation of the AMG Lightweight Performance strategy. Lightweight construction has reduced the vehicle weight by 65 kilograms – even though the car has a higher output and more extensive standard equipment than the predecessor model. This weight saving was achieved largely thanks to the use of a lightweight lithium-ion battery, AMG forged light-alloy wheels and a weight-optimised AMG high-performance composite braking system.

Furthermore, the entire outer skin and the front end of the body are made of aluminium. The reduced weight improves driving dynamics and cuts fuel consumption, while the low power-to-weight ratio of 3.41 kg/hp results in effortlessly superior performance: the S 63 AMG Coupé accelerates from 0 to 62 mph in 3.9 to 4.3 seconds, depending on model variant, and goes on to reach a top speed of 155 mph (electronically limited).

In terms of maximum output, torque and fuel consumption, the AMG 5.5-litre V8 biturbo engine remains one of the most efficient series-produced V8 engines of all. With an output of 585 hp and 900 Nm of torque, the AMG eight-cylinder unit from the BlueDIRECT engine family meets even the most demanding of requirements. Compared to the previous CL 63 AMG model, engine output has been increased by 41 hp and torque by 100 Nm. Yet the S 63 AMG Coupé still consumes less fuel: The NEDC combined figure of 27.9 mpg makes the two-door model the most fuel-efficient model in its competitive segment. Compliance with the EU6 emissions standard shows that performance, efficiency and environmental compatibility are by no means mutually exclusive at Mercedes-AMG.

AMG sports exhaust system with automatic exhaust flaps

Emotive and sporty performance or restrained and relaxing cruising: the S 63 AMG Coupé even has a choice of bespoke sounds. The AMG sports exhaust system meets individual driver requirements as it has automatic logic-controlled exhaust flaps in both rear silencers. When the transmission is in "C" (Controlled Efficiency) mode, the flaps remain closed in most situations, in which case the eight-cylinder biturbo engine's sound is more understated. In "S" (Sport) and "M" (Manual) modes, the exhaust flaps open earlier and more spontaneously, especially if the driver prefers a dynamic driving style. The result is an even fuller, hallmark AMG emotive engine sound.

"One man, one engine": a tradition of hand-built excellence

Like all AMG V8 and V12 engines, the eight-cylinder biturbo engine for the S 63 AMG Coupé is assembled by hand at the AMG engine shop in Affalterbach. Highly qualified engine fitters assemble the engines in Affalterbach according to the strictest quality standards based on the "one man, one engine" philosophy. Apart from serving as an AMG hallmark confirming superlative precision and production quality, the AMG engine plate bearing the engine technician's signature also attests to the peerless DNA of Mercedes-Benz's high-performance brand.

Individuality: AMG SPEEDSHIFT MCT 7-speed sports transmission

The AMG SPEEDSHIFT MCT 7-speed sports transmission combines perfectly with the V8 biturbo engine. Maximum agility and exciting dynamics are the two key strengths of this transmission, which is used exclusively at AMG. Drivers can configure their own personal set-up, depending on their driving style. There are three modes to choose from: "C" (Controlled Efficiency), "S" (Sport) and "M" (Manual).

▲ The new Mercedes-Benz S 63 AMG Coupé

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Weekender sport

Send your reports, results and tables to howard@pemedia.co.uk or call 01297 446152 (deadline: Wednesday 10am)

jack high bowls news

Ilminster leagues bubbling up nicely

CHARD *with Sandra Sumpter*

IN this week's Milford & Dormor Mixed Triples League Canaries and Hurricanes were level at 4-4 after six ends.

Hurricanes then started to romp away winning five good scoring ends. Despite fighting back, Canaries eventually went down 17-11.

Harlequins started strongly against Magpies and at the halfway point held a good lead. Magpies then staged a comeback but ran out of ends finally losing by 15-13.

Royals were playing Greyhounds in the final match of the afternoon and started well. Greyhounds came back to be 7-7 after eight ends.

Royals then found another gear and Greyhounds didn't score any more shots as the Royals took this one 17-7.

Harlequins and Royals are at the top of the table on the same points, but Harlequins have the better shot difference.

However Royals have two games in hand so are clear title favourites.

M & D table	Pld	Pts
Harlequins	20	26
Royals	19	26
Magpies	19	19
Greyhounds	20	19
Hurricanes	19	14
Canaries	19	12

Open day at Chard Bowling Club

GOT nothing to do on Sunday 13th April? Why not come along and try your hand at bowls?

Contrary to popular belief this is not just a game for the old. The latest World Indoor Bowls Ladies Singles champion is 18.

Chard Bowling Club is holding an Open Day. This will start at 11 am and go on to 4pm with free light refreshments. The bar will also be open so visitors can inspect the facilities.

Two different forms of the game are available to try. Most people will be familiar with Lawn Bowls but Chard also has tailor built facilities for the Short Mat version of the game. This is played indoors all year on a mat that is 45 ft. long.

To make the game more of a challenge a block is placed in the middle which bowlers must bowl around to reach the jack. It is highly addictive.

All you need are flat shoes so that neither the grass nor mat will suffer damage. Bowls will be made available.

This club also runs a lot of social events during the year. There have been regular Bingo nights and a Hot Pot and Chilli night as well as regular club nights. You won't win a fortune at Bingo but you will have fun.

If you feel you would like to take up the game memberships are available for just Short Mat, just Lawn bowls or joint memberships.

If you would just like to be included in the social side Social memberships are also available. Why not come along and have a go. All welcome. Chard Bowling Club can be found at Bonds Meadow, Chard TA20 1ED. Parking is available.

The telephone number is 01460 63799 should you wish to contact us. More information can be obtained from Rosemary Barnard on 01460 65763.

CHARDSTOCK *with Gordon Bodily*

Sunday, February 16th: Twelve members travelled to **Honiton** to play a mixed friendly.

Scores: Phylis Baldwin, Veena Cole & D Eldridge 14 CDommet 14. Monica Sturley, A Callagan & M Davenport 10 K Clark 27. Ann Sebright, W Kerr & T Dredge 10 B Nichols 24. B Vickers, B Howard & Barbara Sluman 4 C Dann 26. Final score: Honiton 91 Chardstock 26.

Saturday, March 8th: Twelve members made the short trip to **Axminster** Indoor bc to play a mixed friendly.

Scores: Cynthia Bradford, T Bird, D Eldridge & Barbara Sluman 14 M Crompton 19. Ann Dredge, Veena Cole, J Rolph & J Tucker 14 B Clarke 17. Sheila Jeffery, Ann Sebright, B Howard & T Dredge 16 L Clarke 23. Final score; Axminster 59 Chardstock 44.

CREWKERNE SHORT MAT

with Gordon Bodily

Monday, February 24th: Our visitors were **Odcombe** smbc to play a mixed friendly.

Scores: Gwen Saunders, Tricia Harris & Bill Green won 11-8. Kathy Bonney, John Lacey & Dave Wallis drew 11-11. Jean Lane, Stuart Alan Spinney won 11-9. Dave Charnick, Pat Crisp & Gordon Bodily won 11-3. Brian and Carol Thackaberry & Sid Crisp lost 6-14. Mikki Simmonds, Dave Wallis & John Lacey lost 6-15. Final score: Crewkerne 56 Odcombe 60.

Monday. March 10th: Our visitors were **Chard** smbc to play a mixed friendly.

Scores: Kathy Bonney, John Lacey & Dave Wallis 8 George Milner 11. Jean Lane, Pat Crisp & Alan Spinney 7 Dave Angold 16. Gwen Saunders, Tricia Harris & Bill Green 26 Vic Barnard 6. Dave Charnick, Jackie Mitchell & Sid Crisp 5 Hilary Angold 13. Final score: Crewkerne 46 Chard 46.

◆ **Friday 14th March**: Inner Wheel Ladies had a lovely Lunch at the Henhays Centre and to round off the afternoon they had a Short Mat Bowls Taster Session which everyone enjoyed.

ILMINSTER *with Des Maull*

LAST Saturday Severalls BC were the visitors for a three-rink friendly. After a good start from the home team they fell away when Severalls began to 'find the weight' - Ilminster losing on two rinks and drawing the other.

Final score Ilminster 55 Severalls 69. Details: Dave Wallis, Norma Pugh & Robin Trump 14 K Leamon 22; Val Dargue, Gary Riste, Roy Orme & David Pugh 19 D Reece 25; Arthur Callaghan, Eddy Hadfield, Eric Kietch & Mike King 22 R Devney 22.

With the indoor season drawing to a close there is still all to play for in some of the club leagues,

The Monday Rinks have Barry Sims five points clear with four to play while 2nd placed Cyril Cox has three games left, one of which will be against Barry, while Roger Brown looks to have secured 3rd place.

The St Austell Brewery Monday Premier leaders are Kevin Hamilton by two points from Peter Mattravers both having three games to play, Roland Garland is in 3rd place but out of the race.

In the Tuesday Ladies Triples, Sylvia Read's team is six points ahead with a game in hand over June Checkett's while Dot Whelan, also with a game in hand, in 3rd can still make 2nd spot.

Tuesday Men's Triples, Kevin Hamilton in the lead by three points with four to play while 2nd placed John Ridout has five games left. Barry Sims is holding 3rd place with four to play.

The Wednesday Mixed Triples have Mike King in a commanding lead of eight points over the 2nd placed Cyril Cox team who have a game in hand over 3rd placed Roy Orme.

The Wednesday Evening Rinks have Dave Crouch in the lead by five points over John Mitchell who have a game in hand. Sue Spurway is in 3rd a point further back. Dave and John still have to play each other again which could be the decider.

In the Thursday Pairs, Rex Corbett's team have a three-point lead over 2nd placed Sarah Lightfoot but Rex has a game in hand, Andy Williams has a fight to hold on to 3rd place with David Pugh on the same points. Best wishes to Rex who will not play again this season after an operation, we all hope to see him back in the summer.

The Milford & Dormor Friday Triples is again going right to the end with Bev Brister and Will Anderson both on 22 points with Bev having a game in hand. Andy Williams is in 3rd place on 18 points. Games to play; Bev three, Will two,

The first round of the Grainger was played this week with wins for Ilminster B (Peter Mattravers) over The Numpties (Dave Crouch) and The Misfits (Lawrence Symes) over the Mighty Oaks (Steve Rutter) they now play each other in the next round.

hockey chard 2nds

Unlucky seven!

Chard 2nd XI 3 Oakhampton A 4

IN a seven-goal thriller Chard came from behind to take the lead only to see the game slip away in the second-half.

Playing three across the back rather than their usual back four, Chard were exposed when Oakhampton attacked at pace and grabbed an early lead.

Chard battled to get back on terms. Dan Stone had a flick shot from the first penalty corner saved acrobatically before Gareth Eggle fired the hosts level with a well-struck shot into the corner of the net a few minutes later. As Chard then began to get a slight upper hand, Stone put them 2-1 up with a sweet flick from close range.

pinball goal

Oakhampton's equaliser shortly before half-time had an element of luck about it, the ball ricocheting across the D leaving keeper Berge Balion and the defence flatfooted before falling to Oakhampton's right winger, who made the most of the opportunity.

The visitors then got their noses in front early in the second-half, the ball again bobbling around the Chard D in a goalmouth scramble, coming back off a post and then being slotted home from close range.

That lead was extended with only ten minutes to play when Balion, who had already made some athletic saves, parried a goalbound effort only for the ball to trickle behind him and just beyond the despairing reach of Paul Tratt.

Dave Lury then prevented things getting worse with a brilliant goal line clearance.

Chard then launched a last ditch assault to retrieve the situation with three penalty corners in swift succession.

With less than two minutes to play captain Kyle Wheaton scored Chard's third but there was too little time attempt to salvage a point.

Team: *B Balion, D Lury, P Tratt, S Mahoney, K Wheaton, G Eggle, J Spurdle, M Wheaton, A Maggs, D Stone, A Gurd, Subs: T Goss and H Dening.*

tennis yeovil & district

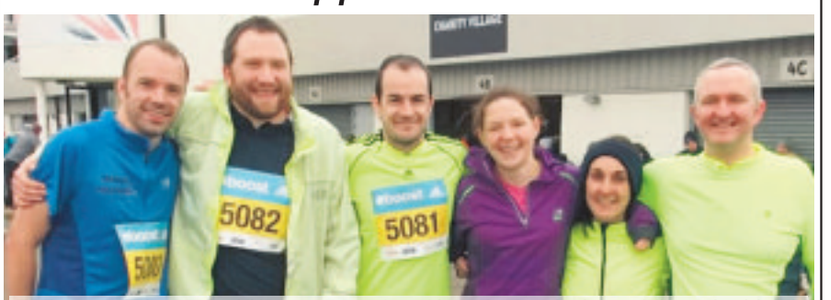
Division One	Pld	Pts
Martock	14	104
Ilminster	13	86
Sherborne	12	66
Chard	13	63
Yeovil	11	53
Melcombe Regis	12	51
Misterton	12	42
South Petherton	11	25

Division Two	Pld	Pts
Martock B	10	86
Weymouth	10	64
Wincanton	10	56
Somerton	9	52
Sherborne B	11	47
Somerton B	11	31
Beaminster	9	14

Division Three	Pld	Pts
Martock C	11	94
Yeovil B	10	66
Martock D	12	58
Bridport	10	49
Yeovil C	12	42
Misterton B	11	37
Chard B	8	24

Division Four	Pld	Pts
Wincanton B	11	81
Weymouth B	10	63
Sherborne C	10	61
Shaftesbury	8	41
Bridport B	8	33
Somerton C	7	21
Beaminster B	10	20

Parents show support with half marathon



■ *SIX parents who have young children at, or connections with, Merriott Pre-school successfully completed the Adidas half-marathon at the famous Silverstone Racing Circuit recently.*

For four of them it was their first experience including Merriott Dynamos football club veteran Barry Hayne and for two others including Pymore FC player-manager Matt Tither it was another marathon experience.

All successfully completed the 13.1 mile course with finishing times ranging from 1:52 to 2:24.

The parents raised an estimated £2000 for the school funds, and special thanks goes to local Merriott based businesses Chish and Fips, Swan Inn, Kings Head, Church Street and Tom Merrick Electrical Contractor of Manor Drive, Merriott. Thanks also go to Novahomes.co.uk and Haslebury Mill for the kind sponsorship donations. Our photo shows the parents (l-r): Matt Tither, Ed Rand, Barry Hayne, Jessica Tither, Tash Rand and Kevin Norminton.

ON THE SPOT

Weekender Sport

puts the questions to ***Long serving Barrington FC club stalwart***

John Martin

Q How old are you? and how long have you involved in local football?

A I'll be 75 in May. I've been around local football since I was 15 - so 60 years in total!

Q Which teams did you play for or manage?

A I played one season at Hambridge and have been with Barrington as a player, manager or club officer ever since.

Q Name the best three players you played alongside.

A My brother **Alan Martin** who played for Ilminster Town, Chard Town, Bridgwater and, for three seasons at the end of his career, Barrington. **Alan Brown** - he could score goals from nothing, **David Jeffery** - a really good ball-winning midfielder or half-back as it was known in his time.

Q And your three most difficult opponents

A **Barry Bisgrove** (Merriott Rovers), **Brian Gage** (centre-half at Kilmington who was also the pick-of-the-league captain) and **Hector Bryant** (full back at Winsham United and later Chard Town).

Q Do any matches or incidents stick in your memory?

A Playing in goal at 16-years-old against Crewkerne in the 1957-58 Crewkerne British Legion cup final - there was a huge crowd watching, much bigger than you see at any of the finals now.

Q What is your most treasured football trophy?

A My very first one, although a losers - The Crewkerne British Legion cup.

Q What was the first professional match you watched live?

A Arsenal 5 Manchester City 4 (1960-61) - the great Bert Trautmann was in goal for City.

Q How would you improve things in local football?

A By improving changing facilities at some of the clubs and also cleanliness - especially the toilets.

Next: ROSS JEWELL

■ *IF you've played local football for a while, or are a retired player, and you fancy a crack at 'On the Spot' then email;* ***howard@pemedia.co.uk***

skittles news

CREWKERNE LEAGUE

Division One	Pld	Pts
Lost Boys	18	177
Super Sexy Six	17	149
Headhunters	17	126
Football Club	17	109
Coachmen	17	106
Stray Cats	16	95
Royal Oak Drimpton	16	94
Muddled Men	17	91*
Con Club Legends	17	82
King Willy Dogs	17	76
Raptors	17	57
The Fryers	18	56

Division Two	Pld	Pts
Perrott Monkeys	18	123
Rollers	16	118
Fuddlers	17	110
Rug Rats	18	108
Muppets	17	107*
Skimmers	17	99
Club Fixers	15	96*
Brewers Bees	17	93
Pinbusters	17	93
Nomads	16	92*
Concorde	16	81
Sports 92	16	56

Division Three	Pld	Pts
Acorns	18	159
Chis Colts	17	146
Loud & Proud	16	123
The Likely Lads	18	119
Hung Like Horses	17	108
Beer Leg Boys	17	89
Ugly Ducklings	16	85
Rotary	18	84
Knappers	17	77
Sandbaggers	16	80*
Willy Low Flyers	16	76
Kings Men	17	71

*= Pts deducted (cancellations/late cards)

ILMINSTER & DISTRICT

DIVISION ONE

Nomads 351-2 (L.Bond 52) Bell A 368-10 (W.Welch 55), Rockey's Rollers 326-3 (R.Findlay 48) Crown Royals 328-9 (S.Edmunds 47), Crown Crusaders 446-11 (M.Rowley 68) Royal Oak Faces 395-1 (N.Jenkins 59), Cricketers 388-10 (B.Venn 61) Ashill Boys 355-2 (B.Smart 51).

Division One	Pld	Pts
Crown Crusaders	14	105
Flying Turkeys	14	98
Rockey's Rollers	14	95
Crown Royals	15	89
Bell A	14	88
Royal Oak Faces	14	81
Cricketers	15	79
Ashill Boys	13	76
Nomads	14	55

DIVISION TWO

Bell Broadway 355-2 (G.Dare, T.Bishop 48) Flying Turkeys Allstars 361-10 (D.Dabinett 64), Ashill Inn 345-11 (B.Male 51) Ilton Choppers 313-1 (M.Farwell 50), Wyndham Warriors 324-11 (G.Grocott 45) Wyndam Clangers 289-1 (T.Lucas 45), Hatch Beagles L King's Head L.

Division Two	Pld	Pts
Flying Turkeys Allstars	14	133
Wyndham Warriors	14	107
Ashill Inn	14	105
Wyndham Clangers	15	93
King's Head	14	88
Bell Broadway	14	86
Hatch Beagles	13	84
Ilton Choppers	14	44
Hatch Eggs	14	16

darts news

CHARD LEAGUE

Premier	Pld	Pts
High 4 & a Half	18	306
BDB's	18	297
Rejects Return	17	268
New Order	17	223
Clubbers	16	212
Hobnobs	16	184
Phoenix Poppes	17	176
Downs	16	162
Pig Jockeys	15	161
Hopefuls	16	151

Most 180s: Leighton Cox (High 4 & a Half) and Paul Lawrence (BDB's) both 9. **Team**: High 4 & Half 20.

Division One	Pld	Pts
Country Classics	18	277
Happy Sharks	17	184
Pop Darts	18	184
Pirates	17	179
Cult of Personality	18	172
Stumpy's Gang	18	171
PA's	17	126
HRT	17	126
Madhouse Crew	17	124
From Small Acorns	17	123

Most 180s: Dave Mears (Country Classics) 4. **Team**: Country Classics 11.

Division Two	Pld	Pts
Two Minute Crew	17	195
We Can Do This	16	185
Winning Team	16	184
Best of a Bad Lot	17	183
Chard Remains	17	168
Red Devils	17	158
Happy Days	17	151
Dizzy Tarts	17	138
Rare Breeds	16	125
B's Knees	16	125

Most 180s: James Packer (We can do This) 2. **Team**: Two Minute Crew and We Can do This - both 2.

scrum-down chard rugby

WITH GLYN HUGHES

Leaders stunned by impressive Chard

Chard 32 St Austell 24

South-West Division One

CHARD produced one of their best performances of the season last Saturday when they deservedly beat league leaders St Austell with a powerful and very disciplined display.

After their disappointing performance against Camborne last week Chard were really up for this game and went into the lead virtually from the kick-off when skipper Chris Doak goaled a straight forward penalty.

The first quarter of the game was very evenly contested but Chard certainly had the edge in the forward play with the front row of Luke Aplin, Simon Jenkins and Nick Hyslop looking very strong, and it was fitting that great work by the whole pack would set up the first try of the match.

After driving the visiting forwards back lock forward Alan Henley went over for a try which was converted by Doak from the touchline.

St Austell responded well when full-back Dan Pearce kicked a penalty goal after Chard had been caught offside.

Full-back Bryan Harrison added pace to the Chard back division and, after a sustained attack, he broke through on the right hand side and added a second try for Chard which was again superbly converted by Doak from a difficult angle.

St Austell responded well with a try from Miles Davey which was converted by Pearce.

Chard then scored their third try when their forwards won ball against the head in the set-piece and the ball was moved out wide quickly and centre Neil Douglas cut through to score an unconverted try.

The visitors were a very competitive side but, with the Chard forwards starving them of possession, their talented back division struggled to make an impact.

Shortly before the break, and after several phases of play close to the St Austell line, the referee lost patience with the visitors after a series of infringements and Chard were awarded a penalty and bonus point try which Doak converted. This gave the hosts a commanding 29-10 lead at the interval.

But St Austell are not top of the league without reason.

And in the opening minute of the second-half they showed what a dangerous side they can.

A kick to touch was missed and the outstanding Pearce launched a superb counterattack and, after some slick link-up play, took the final pass and scored an superb try which he converted himself. This try put St Austell right back into the mix.

Chard though continued to play really well and even when they lost player-coach Jenkins to the bin for some apparent illegal play they managed to hold on to their lead

Deep in to the half Chard increased their lead with a penalty from Doak which meant that St Austell were now three scores behind and on the way to a rare defeat.

Flanker Ian Fenner got a late try for the visitors, again converted by Pearce, but Chard were worthy winners in an absorbing contest.

A terrific game which saw Chard perform as well as they have done all season.

This win puts Chard back into the chase for as play-off place and even a possible title assault - although at this point Hornets now look favourites.

Chard: *Harrison, Roberts, Douglas, L Massey, Pennington, Doak, Nicholls, Parsons, Wagstaff, Wright, Mouland, Henley, Aplin, Jenkins, Hyslop. Replacements: J Massey, Twigg, Gosden.*

Chard are away at Cullompton tomorrow - kick off 3pm.

SW1 Table (Top)	Pld	+/-	Pts
St Austell	22	344	78
Hornets	20	310	76
Cleve	21	285	76
Camborne	21	138	73
North Petherton	21	144	71
CHARD	20	128	69
Thornbury	20	-131	50
Bridgwater & Albion	22	29	47
Cullompton	21	-93	41
Bideford	20	-58	40
Clevedon	21	-127	35
Wadebridge Camels	21	-105	28
Coney Hill	22	-450	13
Sidmouth	20	-414	6

In Somerset Divison Two CHARD 2ND XV collected a losing bonus point after a narrow 31-27 defeat at Midsomer Norton 2nds.

Meanwhile CREWKERNE defaeted Old Sulians 46-13 at Henhayes.

Chard entertain Bridgwater & Albion tomorrow while Crewkerne head off to North Petherton.

SOMERSET 1	Pld	+/-	Pts
Clevedon II	22	372	92
Castle Cary	21	307	78
Imperial	21	156	77
Hornets II	20	155	64
North Petherton II	20	110	62
CREWKERNE	21	176	57
Wellington II	19	53	56
Midsomer Norton II	20	-20	53
Yatton II	21	37	51
Bridgwater & Albion II	21	107	45
CHARD II	20	-292	31
Old Sulians	21	-219	30
Wells II	21	-596	7
Old Redcliffians III	20	-346	-6

Glovers In Focus

By Stuart Broom

When you're down, you're down!

WHEN the gods conspire against you there is absolutely nothing you can do; the same applies to referees!

I know I have banged this drum so many times before this season, but Saturday once again proved that when your lucks out, and you have a poor referee, there is nothing you can do about it.

Yeovil have had their fill of inept and inadequate officials whilst they have been in the Championship which has cost the Glovers a stack of points this season which would have seen them comfortably clear from the situation they find themselves in at present.

They say that tables don't lie, and to a point, or several to be fair in Yeovil's case, they are correct.

You only have to look at the results to see that if the Glovers had a goalscorer to play alongside James Hayter, or if Paddy Madden had cut the mustard at this level, then they would be comfortably in mid-table, but that doesn't show the true story.

Yes they have also had a lot of bad luck, but I am convinced that abject refereeing has been the main problem, and if what we have seen at Huish Park particularly is anything to go by, then the premiership will go into meltdown if this bunch ever reach there!

Of course the mention of gods in my opening paragraph referred to the celestial kind, not the pompous men in the middle who sometimes can't even chose a shirt that doesn't clash with the opposition. They just think they are gods!

Once again Saturday at Loftus Road proved that, when Mark Brown added his name to the list of incompetents.

With Yeovil in the ascendency after a good start, they scored a perfectly good goal on 20 minutes when Luke Ayling lobbed the ball home when Robert Green slipped kicking the ball from his hands.

However, Brown decided that Hayter watching the former England keeper from close range in case he made a mistake fouled him despite there being no contact between the two.

If that had happened at the other end I am convinced Brown would have allowed the goal for the multi-million pound club.

Luck also conspires against you when you are down.

Although Ravel Morrison's opener was a great goal, it struck the inside of the post and went in; unlike Kieffer Moore's effort against Ipswich that ran across the goal; whilst Tom Lawrence's sublime curling effort left Green standing and smacked against the junction of the goalframe just before QPR scored their second.

Ayling strike earns point after late midweek goal-glut

Okay, you can't claim the result would have been different, but it is those things that can change a club's fortune.

Ayling scores one that counts!

WIGAN ATHLETIC 3 YEOVIL TOWN 3

TALKING about referees; Andy D'Urso, now there's one I've heard of!

He was the man in the middle for the Glovers first visit to the DW Stadium on Tuesday night, and although the penalty against Matteo Lanzoni appeared soft, there was no obvious bias towards the "big team", and let's face it outside the top half dozen there is no bigger team at the moment than Wigan.

Having won their last eight in all competitions; including two FA Cup wins against Premiership sides Cardiff and the mighty Manchester City; and already in a play-off position, that is some achievement.

Two sublime left foot curlers from Ishmael Miller looked like it might give Yeovil a valuable three points, but after two quick replies from Wigan it looked like Derby County all over again.

However, Luke Ayling popped up in the dying seconds to scramble home the equaliser, and this time it counted!

With Charlton getting a last minute winner against Bournemouth however, it is still very tense at the bottom and a win at Huish Park against Bolton Wanderers is vital.

Congratulations!

GARY Johnson got his just desserts on Sunday when he was named winner of the 2014 Football League Outstanding Managerial Achievement Award at the Football League Awards ceremony at The Brewery, London.

The Glovers boss was recognised for his achievement in getting Yeovil into the second tier of English football via the promotion play-offs, despite the Glovers having been tipped for relegation while operating on a playing budget that would make some League Two clubs wince.

Congratulations Gary and all your staff!

Congratulation's incidentally must also go to Sheffield United after their great win against Charlton Athletic that sees them going to Wembley for the FA Cup semi-final.

Not only was it a win for the underdogs, but the team were made up of all British players!

Well done Nigel Clough and his team.

football yeovil 6-a-side

WITH the top of the table places all sorted in the Premier League, all eyes were on the race to avoid the drop, and as fate would have it Stroke and Dyslexia met in what was to be a winner-takes all clash to avoid division one.

It was Stroke who will be playing in the top level next term as they ran out 4-1 victors.

Barrington were odds-on favourites for the division one championship and lived up to that tag in style, crushing No Kalou FC 10-0.

Peles Children ended up with last day heartache, as their 4-3 defeat to Blackmore's was enough to see them relegated.

With everything already sorted in division two, it was all eyes on who could impress for next season, and Not So Athletico passed that test, holding already promoted Swag Lads to a 2-2 draw, and they look every inch like that could improve on this terms third place.

Anyone who wants to join the leagues in Yeovil – with the new season set to kick off next week- can ring 0333 123 2340 or visit www.leisureleagues.net

cycling chard wheelers

White heads the pack

ANOTHER great day of weather and results unfolded at RNAS Merryfield last Saturday.

McKinlays 1st Chard Wheelers promoted their own Spring circuit races and with chairman Brandon Ellis at the helm, events proceeded very smoothly.

The youth races also incorporated the first round of the South-West Youth Circuit series championships. The event attracted around 75 riders in the cat 2/3/4 adult race and over 80 youth riders.

The highlights of the day came in the Under 16/ Under 14 race with 45 riders of which nearly half the field ended the race in a massed bunch sprint.

First year under 16 Ryan White timed his explosive sprint finish to perfection and stormed past several other top riders to win by a wheel.

Emily Attfield sped to her second win of the season in great style in the Under 16 girls and maintained her top form. Until this year Emily had been a high level tri-athlete but has decided to hang up her running shoes and swimming "cozzy" and concentrate on her cycling with great effect. Since joining the 'wheelers' she has seriously developed as a track and circuit racer and great things lay ahead for her.

An excited Chairman Brandon Ellis stated: "I'm delighted to have two SW series leaders in Yellow jerseys in our club and four category leaders including Joe West(Under 14) and Evan Richards (Under 12).

"I'm very thrilled for Ryan who is hitting top form again after his collar bone break late last year two of the riders he beat are either in, or on the verge of, the Olympic development team!"

Joe West also stayed with the main bunch and produced a great sprint to claim first spot in the Under 14 event, while Evan Richards did likewise in the Under 12s.

On Sunday Dean Ward and Dave Parsons set a new personal best time for a two-up time trial at Honiton over the ten-mile course.

Rob Hogg, George Fowler and Jacob Board travelled to Leedstown for the second round of the Falco Spring series.

Fowler made a solo break early in the cat 2/3/4 race as his team-mates held up the main bunch. He was eventually caught by one rider and recorded second place. Hogg took 5th overall in the bunch sprint. All three had scored top ten finishes and ranking points, at the Merryfield event, the previous day.

McKinlays 1st Chard Wheelers would like to thank RNAS Merryfield for their continued support of cycle racing and use of the airfield facility situated in the heart of the south Somerset community.

If anyone would like further details of the club's cycling activities please ring Brandon Ellis 01460 221479 or visit www.1stchardwheelers.org.uk

■ **WELL DONE:** Ryan White is congratulated by club chairman Brandon Ellis

golf windwhistle

League season underway

THE Windwhistle C team kicked-off their league campaign with an 11-point haul after an exciting 3-2 win away to Wheathill B.

This is the first time the C team have won their opening league match for three years.

Best performance was from Mickey Hearn & Ian Housham winning by a 3&2 margin. All other games were won and lost on the 17th green

Captain Mike Wilkes would like to thank all of the team members and is overwhelmed by the amount of interest this year.

This Sunday the B team begin their campaign when they entertain Taunton & Pickerage Stags.

Quiz Night

MENS Captain Mike Wilkes would like to thank all teams that entered his quiz night.

A tremendous entry of 20 teams (four per team) took part in the event and over £200 was raised for the Captains Charity.

LOCAL FOOTBALL NEWS

WITH **Howard Larcombe**
twitter @HowardLarcombe

Nap-hand wins for Chard and Saints

Misterton and Crewkerne target cup final derby - Luso given Woodroffe lesson

As they stand

Toolstation Div 1	Pld	+/-	Pts
Bradford Town	31	90	84
Shepton Mallet	34	50	73
Welton Rovers	33	28	62
Cribbs	35	18	59
Almondsbury UWE	34	8	56
Wellington	34	7	56
Barnstaple Town	29	23	54
Corsham Town	32	-11	52
Wincanton Town	31	31	51
Ashton & Backwell	30	-5	47
Chippenham Park	35	-13	47
Devizes Town	33	-1	46
CHARD TOWN (12th)	***33***	***3***	***45***
Roman Glass St G	34	-10	44
Wells City	31	-6	40
Calne Town	36	-4	39
Westbury United	34	-14	36
Cheddar	30	-22	34
Warminster Town	33	-31	30
Keynsham Town	34	-40	27
Oldland Abbotonians	33	-37	20
Portishead Town	33	-64	12

Somerset Premier	Pld	+/-	Pts
Clutton	24	40	56
Nailsea Utd	23	37	56
Shirehampton	26	43	53
Fry Club	24	33	47
Watchet Town	21	16	44
Minehead	23	19	39
Stockwood Green	24	1	39
Berrow	23	5	34
Bishops Lydeard	25	-2	32
Bridgwater Town Res	24	-17	28
Cutters Friday	21	-5	27
Nailsea Town	23	-11	27
Yatton Athletic	25	-14	25
Weston St Johns	22	-28	22
Langford Rovers*	22	-19	18
Street Res	25	-41	18
ILMINSTER TOWN	***19***	***-16***	***17***
Odd Down Res	24	-41	16

Somerset Div 2W	Pld	+/-	Pts
Cleeve West Town	21	49	52
Glastonbury	21	35	44
COMBE St NICHOLAS	***25***	***27***	***41***
Wells City Res	21	19	41
North Curry	21	19	39
Staplegrove	19	15	35
Winscombe	21	14	35
Portishead Town Res	19	9	34
Worle	21	6	31
Uphill Castle	18	25	28
Kewstoke Lions	20	-8	28
Nailsea Utd Res	20	-14	21
Burnham Utd Res	20	-38	17
Cheddar Res*	22	-18	15
Churchill Club*	24	-55	12
Weston St Johns Res	26	-60	11
Nailsea Town Res*	21	-25	10

D&E Premier Div	Pld	+/-	Pts
St Martins	16	65	45
Newtown	15	45	41
Budleigh Salterton Res	23	-18	33
Feniton	16	18	26
Exeter University Res	16	-2	26
CHARD TOWN RES	***20***	***6***	***25***
Tiverton Town Res	11	20	23
Seaton Town	17	-3	23
Willand Rovers Res	19	-6	22
Beer Albion	19	-19	21
Hatherleigh Town*	15	0	19
Thorverton	12	-8	19
Topsham Town	18	-20	15
Clyst Valley	18	-32	9
Heavitree Utd	15	-46	5

*** = points deducted**

PSDL

Premier	Pld	+/-	Pts
Crewkerne Town	13	27	29
W&M Chinnock	12	8	23
Perry Street	14	11	22
Lyme Regis	7	19	19
Beaminster	10	11	18
Millwey Rise	14	1	18
Shepton Beau	11	12	17
Misterton	10	2	15
Ilminster Res	10	-10	12
Combe Res*	11	-18	9
Winsham Utd	16	-63	1

Division One	Pld	+/-	Pts
South Petherton	13	31	31
Perry Street Res	11	21	23
Forton Rangers	13	6	22
Lyme Regis Res	9	17	20
Barrington	13	6	17
Netherbury	15	-8	17
Farway Utd	13	-8	16
Pymore	11	-4	14
Uplyme	11	-16	6
Beaminster Res	13	-45	5

Division Two	Pld	+/-	Pts
Chard Utd	12	36	36
Luso-Chard*	13	24	26
Charmouth	13	16	25
Thorncombe	13	12	25
Waytown Hounds	13	13	21
Combe A	13	7	21
Ilminster Colts	14	-22	15
Crewkerne Rangers	13	-8	14
Crewkerne Res	13	-20	9
Dowlish & Donyatt	13	-20	8
S.Petherton Res*	14	-38	2

Division Three	Pld	+/-	Pts
Chard Utd Res	14	4	26
Barrington Res	12	18	25
Drimpton	11	10	23
Lyme Bantams	10	11	20
Hawkchurch Utd	12	7	19
Shepton Beau Res	11	7	17
Millwey Rise Res	11	2	17
Ilminster Town A	12	-10	12
Winsham Utd Res	13	-28	8
Chard Rangers	14	-21	6

Division Four	Pld	+/-	Pts
Merriott Dynamos	17	57	41
Kingsbury Episcopi	13	34	34
Forton Rangers Res	13	26	29
Thorncombe Res	13	16	24
Misterton Reserves	14	-1	23
Combe B	14	8	20
Crewk Rangers Res	12	-11	12
Hinton St George	14	-20	10
Uplyme Res*	14	-20	9
Farway Utd Res	14	-49	7
Chard Rangers Res	12	-40	3

*** = Pts deducted**

Chard Town 1
Chippenham Park 1
Toolstation Division One - att: 63

IN a match marred by poor refereeing decisions, Chippenham Park celebrated their first ever visit to Chard's Zembard Lane ground by claiming a point from a 1-1 draw *writes Ian Hallett*.

The home side held the upper hand for much of the opening period and came close to taking the lead in the 21st minute as Ed Butcher won the ball on the edge of the area and slammed it inches wide of the upright.

Three minutes later Butcher was in the thick of the action again, this time with his back to goal he received a through ball from Jamie Barfoot and in one action swivelled and fired his shot at goal, but was unlucky to see it rebound off the crossbar.

In the 31st minute Chard were unfortunate not to take the lead as Jamie Underwood's effort from out wide hit the junction of post and bar.

The pressure finally paid off four minutes later when a throw-in was flicked on to Nathan Warren who scored with what is now becoming his trademark goal - a thunderous 30-yard shot that swerved and dipped over keeper Charlie Heydon and into the net.

Chippenham equalised in the last minute of the half when Chard failed to clear a corner and the ball fell to Shane Blackmore who stabbed it over the line from close range.

In the second-half a goal-bound shot from Underwood was tipped over the bar by Heydon in the 65th minute. And four minutes later Hebditch crossed the ball to George Chlopecki who headed wide.

Referee Kevin Williams came in for criticism in the 75th minute when Hebditch won the ball in what looked a fair challenge on Dan Smith and as he was allowed to continue, the official noticed his assistant waving his flag.

After some conferring, the referee showed Hebditch a red card and ordered him from the field of play.

Chippenham were also reduced to ten men soon after when Smith was dismissed and Chard's Mark Armstrong was shown a yellow card in the same incident.

Perhaps the strangest decision by the man in the middle came in the final minute of the game.

Visiting substitute Adam Shipman brought down Darren Hutchings with a two-footed sliding challenge and as both players got back on their feet, Hutchings knocked Shipman to the ground.

Everyone watching must have expected both players to be sent off, but instead, Mr Williams decided to blow the final whistle!

Chard*: Jason Hutchings, Jamie Barfoot (Ben Haines 70), Darren Hutchings, Leigh Bailey, Mark Scott, Jamie Underwood, Mark Armstrong, George Chlopecki, Ed Butcher, Richie Hebditch, Nathan Warren. Unused Subs: Adam Fricker, Scott Wells-Burr.*

Chard Town 5 Westbury Utd 3
Toolstation Division One - att: 65

AFTER going 2-0 down in the first 16 minutes Chard Town staged a remarkable fightback to beat Westbury United 5-3 at the Lane on Tuesday evening.

Westbury surged through the Chard defence to open the scoring after only three minutes.

A second goal came when once again the visitors broke away and scored with only 'keeper Jason Hutchings to beat.

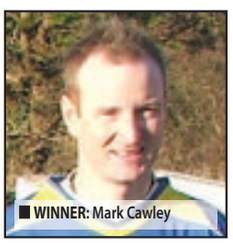
But Nathan Warren continued his fine goalscoring form with a crisp shot that found the top corner of the net to half the arrears in the 35th minute.

Then, right on the half-time whistle, Rich Hebditch was brought down in the area and the equaliser came with Sam Clark making no mistake with the spot kick.

In the second-half both sides attacked but it was Westbury who regained the lead from a free kick midway through the second period.

Two minutes later Chard responded with Mark Scott was on hand to open his account for the season from close range.

The Robins took the lead for the first time in the 71st minute when Sam Clark cracked home a superb



■ **WINNER:** Mark Cawley

free-kick and substitute Ed Butcher rounded the scoring off two minutes from time.

Chard*: Jason Hutchings, Jason Barfoot (Ben Haines 17) Darren Hutchings, Nathan Warren, Mark Scott, Jamie Underwood, Mark Armstrong, George Chlopecki, Sam Clark, Sam Spurway (Ed Butcher 73) Richard Hebditch (Adam Tovey). Unused sub: Adam Fricker*.

Somerset Womens League
Division Two
WINSHAM UTD LADIES 0
MERRIOTT & CREWKERNE LADIES 1

WINSHAM must be wondering how they ended this match against local rivals Merriott & Crewkerne without getting at least a point.

Sam Caddy, Kate Hartley and Rachel Winters all went close but the visitors grabbed the winner in the 43rd minute when Becky Knight netted from close range.

DEVON & EXETER LEAGUE

A 3-1 win at Topsham Town saw CHARD TOWN RESERVES record this first win on their travels since November.

James Boyland scored twice to move to the top of the team's scoring charts with eight. Adam Tovey bagged the other goal.

The Robins' second-string entertain the Exeter University Reserves tomorrow.

SOMERSET LEAGUE

ILMINSTER TOWN went from feast to famine as they followed last week's superb victory over leaders Shirehampton with a miserable 2-1 home reverse against bottom-of-the-table Odd Down.

After a goal less first-half the visitors struck twice before Charlie Rutter netted the consolation.

The Blues, now back down in the Premier Division's bottom two, will look to put this behind them, and quickly, ahead of tomorrow's visit by Minehead.

COMBE ST NICHOLAS extended their unbeaten home record to 10 games with a comprehensive 5-0 drubbing of lowly Weston St John.

Joe Simmons (2), Luke Finn, Sam Symes and Chris Warry scored the Saints who eased up to third in the table ahead of tomorrow's visit by Winscombe.

PERRY STREET & DISTRICT LEAGUE
PREMIER

BEAMINSTER 5 COMBE RES 1

A THIRD consecutive win at their Memorial Ground home has lifted Beaminster up to the lofty heights of fifth spot in the Premier Division table and plunged opponents Combe Reserves firmly into a relegation dog-fight.

Gary Corry opened the scoring before Ben Ward volleyed home number two.

Further strikes from Murray Legg and Man-of-the-Match Josh Baker put the Rainbows away and clear at the turnaround.

Alf Ward completed the nap-hand in the second-half before the beleaguered Saints, who have recently been docked two points, grabbed a late consolation through Mark Biss.

CREWKERNE TOWN 5 PERRY STREET 1

CREWKERNE Town surged six points clear at the top of the table after coming from behind to record an impressive win at Henhayes.

The hosts were slow out of the blocks and Street took advantage by taking the lead in the 18th minute through Braden Symes

But the Tigers eventually found their rhythm and Jak Flatt equalised ten minutes before the break.

Jamie Spurdle coolly lobbed home number two before crossing for Dave John to power home a bullet header to make 3-1 at the interval.

Crewkerne moved up through the gears in the second-half and made the points safe with further goals from Spurdle, his 24th of the season, and Brad Miles.

Street manager Ian Hilton said afterwards: "I didn't think 5-1 was a fair reflection of how hard we worked. Jake Board hit the crossbar from a free-kick and Liam Riste missed a couple of late one-on-ones."

SHEPTON BEAU 0 W & M CHINNOCK 1

A FOURTH minute goal from top-scorer Mark Cawley proved decisive as The Chinnocks bagged all three points which sees them up to second spot in the table.

The visitors goalkeeper-manager Matt Alford felt his side deserved the win, he said: "I only had one shot to save in the whole game, whereas Rich Pippen saved five one-on-ones at the other end.

"My team threw everything into tackles and all did what was asked of them – I'm very proud."

WINSHAM UTD 2 MILLWEY RISE 3

DESPITE putting on what player-manager Tom Stead described as "Our best performance of the season" defeat at Bakersfield on Saturday has left defending champions Winsham United teetering on the brink of relegation.

Millwey took the lead when Levi Hoole converted from close range. Brad-Lee Miller made it 2-0 in the 19th minute with a free-kick that deflected off the defensive wall.

Corrin Corrick pulled one back for the hosts before half-time only for Mark Pike to restore Rise's two-goal cushion.

Hopes of a possible point were reignited for the battling hosts when James Parsons' speculative long-ranger squirmed through the legs of keeper Ash Hall but Millwey clung on.

KNOCK OUT CUPS

THE cup shock of the weekend occurred at the Woodroffe School where Division Three outfit Lyme Regis Bantams ended Division Two high-fliers Luso-Chard's **Daisy Hutchings** cup hopes with a 3-0 win.

In the same competition Dowlish & Donyatt have been ejected after fielding an ineligible player in last week's win over Charmouth who take their place in the last eight.

The two teams met again in a **Jack Venn** quarter-final with Dowlish this time emerging with a 2-1 win thanks to goals from Adam and Andrew Male.

Also through to the semi's are Crewkerne Rangers who battled back from 2-0 down to beat Combe A on penalties at Slades Cross. The Saints were on top courtesy of strikes from Jordan Allen and a Sam Caddy OG.

But the Rangers ralled and goals form Steve Dunkerton and Darren Whitmarsh in the last 20 minutes forced extra time.

But the teams couldn't be split and it was Rangers keeper Nick Backrach who emerged as the hero saving the first three Combe kicks in the penalty shoot-out before scoring the winner himself!

Drimpton booked their place in the last four of the **Bill Bailey** cup with a 4-2 win over Shepton Beauchamp Reserves. Adam Tanner (2), Chris Rowswell and Paul Richards netted for the Greens with Jordan Brain scoring his first goals for Shepton.

Meanwhile, Paul Trevaskis bagged a hat-trick and Steve Baker, Alan Mansell and Dave Lock singles to add to an own goal as Forton Reserves thrashed Chard Rangers Reserves 7-0 to reach the last eight of the **Ken Hodges** cup.

Finally, Harry Hosiene and John Mason scored the goals that earned Thorncombe Reserves a 2-0 **Reg Eglon** cup quarter-final victory at Crewkerne Rangers Reserves.

LEAGUE ROUND-UP

■ **SEASON'S FIRST:** Mark Scott

SOUTH Petherton dropped two points in their quest for the **Division One** title when they were held to a 1-1 draw at Pymore. Cameron Murless put the hosts ahead in the 48th minute before Dean Smith snatched a late leveler for Pethy who were denied by the woodwork on several occasions.

Barrington had the better of their trip to Netherbury but ended up going down to a John Kingston strike in a 1-0 defeat.

Goals from two of their overseas contingent helped runaway leaders Chard United rack up their 12th consecutive **Division Two** victory. Kamil Wilk and Norbert Harasiemowiz gave Chard a two-goal cushion at half-time against hosts Ilminster Town Colts.

A Danny Whaites penalty eight minutes from time gave the Colts some hope but United march on.

Over at Horseshoe Lane Alex Clist continued his good form in front of goal with the winner as Thorncombe maintained their promotion push with a 1-0 win over Wayown Hounds.

At the other end of the table, goals from Dom Muggridge saw South Petherton Reserves lead twice against fellow strugglers Crewkerne Town Reserves before going down to a 4-2 defeat.

Danny Baker, Dan Larcombe, Ben Cable and Chris Welch scored for the Tigers who claw their way out of the bottom two as a result.

Down in **Division Three** Chard United Reserves' lead at the top was cut to just a point as they went down to a Gary Venn goal at mid-tablers Millwey Rise Reserves.

Chard's loss was good news for Barrington Reserves who capitalized with a 4-1 win in the derby game with Ilminster Town A.

Gethyn Jenkins moved to the top of the Division's scoring chart with a hat-trick against his old club. Chris Lang netted the other goal for the hosts with 16-year-old Rob Belton scoring for the Blues.

Down at the bottom a Scott Marshall hat-trick has boosted Chard Rangers' hopes of beating the drop after they beat rivals Winsham Utd Reserves 5-2.

Jordan Capper and Karl Fletcher had the others while Danny Slade and Darren Partridge scored for United.

It was great to hear that referee Rex Selwood made his return to the middle for this game after being taken ill at the Combe B v Uplyme Reserves game back in early February.

Big away wins saw the top two surge further clear in **Division Four**. Barry Hayne (2), Ross Wetherall (2), Nye Dang, Dan Anjos and Adam Swinnerton scored in leaders Merriott Dynamos' comfortable 7-0 win at struggling Uplyme Reserves.

At the same time second placed Kingsbury won 4-1 at Farway Reserves with Ben Norman (2), Luke Monk and Nigel Jefferys on target.

Elsewhere, a double from player-manager Ross Jewell put hosts Hinton in control against Misterton Reserves.

Missy pulled one back and contrived to miss yet another penalty before half-time.

But they scored twice in a minute after the turnaround before running out 4-2 winners with the goals coming from Alan Heffernan, Neil Hawkins, against his old club, Phil Lee and Ricky Smith.

■ **DOUBLE:** Jamie Spurdle

PREVIEW

THE spotlight tomorrow falls on the **Challenge cup semi-finals**.

Misterton make the short trip south to face Beaminster at the Memorial Ground . Missy, unbeaten in six, last lifted the trophy back in 1991-92 but will be favourites to book their place in the final at Good Friday's final at Forton.

The other game looks far too close to call. Games between old rivals Crewkerne Town and Lyme Regis are usually hard fought with very little between the teams in recent times. This one will be no different and may even go the distance…

RESULTS - Saturday, March 15th
DORSET INTERMEDIATE CUP SF REPLAY
Lyme Regis 3 Normalair RSL 0
DAISY HUTCHINGS CUP R2
Lyme Bantams (D3) 3 Luso-Chard (D2) 0
JACK VENN CUP QF
Combe A 2 Crewkerne Rangers 2
(Crewkerne won 3-1 on pens)
Dowlish & Donyatt 2 Charmouth 1
BILL BAILEY CUP QF
Drimpton 4 Shepton Beauchamp Res 2
KEN HODGES CUP R1
Forton Rangers Res 7 Chard Rangers Res 0
REG EGLON CUP QF
Crewk Rangers Res 0 Thorncombe Res 2
PREMIER
Beaminster 5 Combe Res 1
Crewkerne Town 5 Perry Street 1
Shepton Beauchamp 0 W & M Chinnock 1
Winsham Utd 2 Millwey Rise 3
DIVISION ONE
Netherbury 1 Barrington 0
Pymore 1 South Petherton Res 1
DIVISION TWO
Ilminster Town Colts 1 Chard Utd 2
South Petherton Res 2 Crewkerne Res 4
Thorncombe 1 Waytown Hounds 0
DIVISION THREE
Barrington Res 4 Ilminster Town A 1
Chard Rangers 5 Winsham Utd Res 2
Millwey Rise Res 1 Chard Utd Res 0
DIVISION FOUR
Farway Utd Res 1 Kingsbury Episcopi 4
Hinton St George 2 Misterton Res 4
Uplyme Res 0 Merriott Dynamos 7

FIXTURES – Saturday, March 22nd
(all 2.30pm ko unless stated)
CHALLENGE CUP SF (2pm)
Beaminster v Misterton
Lyme Regis v Crewkerne Town
ARTHUR GAGE CUP QF (2pm)
Farway Utd v Uplyme
DAISY HUTCHINGS CUP QF (2pm)
Barrington Res v Combe A
Forton Rangers Res v Merriott Dynamos
TOMMY TABBERER CUP QF (2pm)
Crewkerne Rangers v Ilminster Town Colts
JACK VENN CUP QF (2pm)
Waytown Hounds v Luso-Chard
BILL BAILEY CUP QF (2pm)
Hawkchurch Utd v Millwey Rise Res
KEN HODGES CUP QF (2pm)
Misterton Res v Hinton Res
Thorncombe Res v Farway Utd Res
REG EGLON CUP QF (2pm)
Uplyme Res v Chard Rangers Res
PREMIER
Millwey Rise v Shepton Beauchamp
Perry Street v Combe Res
DIVISION ONE
Lyme Regis Res v Forton Rangers
South Petherton v Barrington
DIVISION TWO
Charmouth v Chard United
DIVISION THREE
Shepton Beauchamp Res v Chard Utd Res
Winsham Utd Res v Lyme Regis Bantams
DIVISION FOUR
Combe B v Kingsbury Episcopi

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